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Alex Trebek

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★★★

DECISION 2020

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November 23, 2020

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WE ARE THE WOMEN WHO PUSH OURSELVES TO THE MAX.
WE FACE THE LABELS. THE ODDS.
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WE FACE TODAY, FOR A BETTER TOMORROW.
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TOGETHER, WE CAN FACE ANYTHING.

OLAY
REGENERIST
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helps **ELIMINATE ODOR?**

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chatter

November 23, 2020

‘To live for a moment in time without the pressure of results and instead appreciate the natural rhythms of mother and daughter was the most precious gift’

–KATIE HOLMES, on what she’s valued during the pandemic, to *Vogue Australia*

‘Last night I tried to tweet while I was feeding him. He looked @ me & said “absolutely TF NOT.” he wants his undivided attention’

–NICKI MINAJ, on her newborn son, on Twitter

‘You’ve got to find a way to live your life. You’ve got to find a way to forgive each other’

–DAVE CHAPELLE, on the country coming together, on *Saturday Night Live*

‘Bring it! I’ve heard way worse’

–JENNY McCARTHY, on Wendy Williams accusing her of using lip fillers, on *Watch What Happens Live with Andy Cohen*

‘I feel pretty good about starting my own pack’

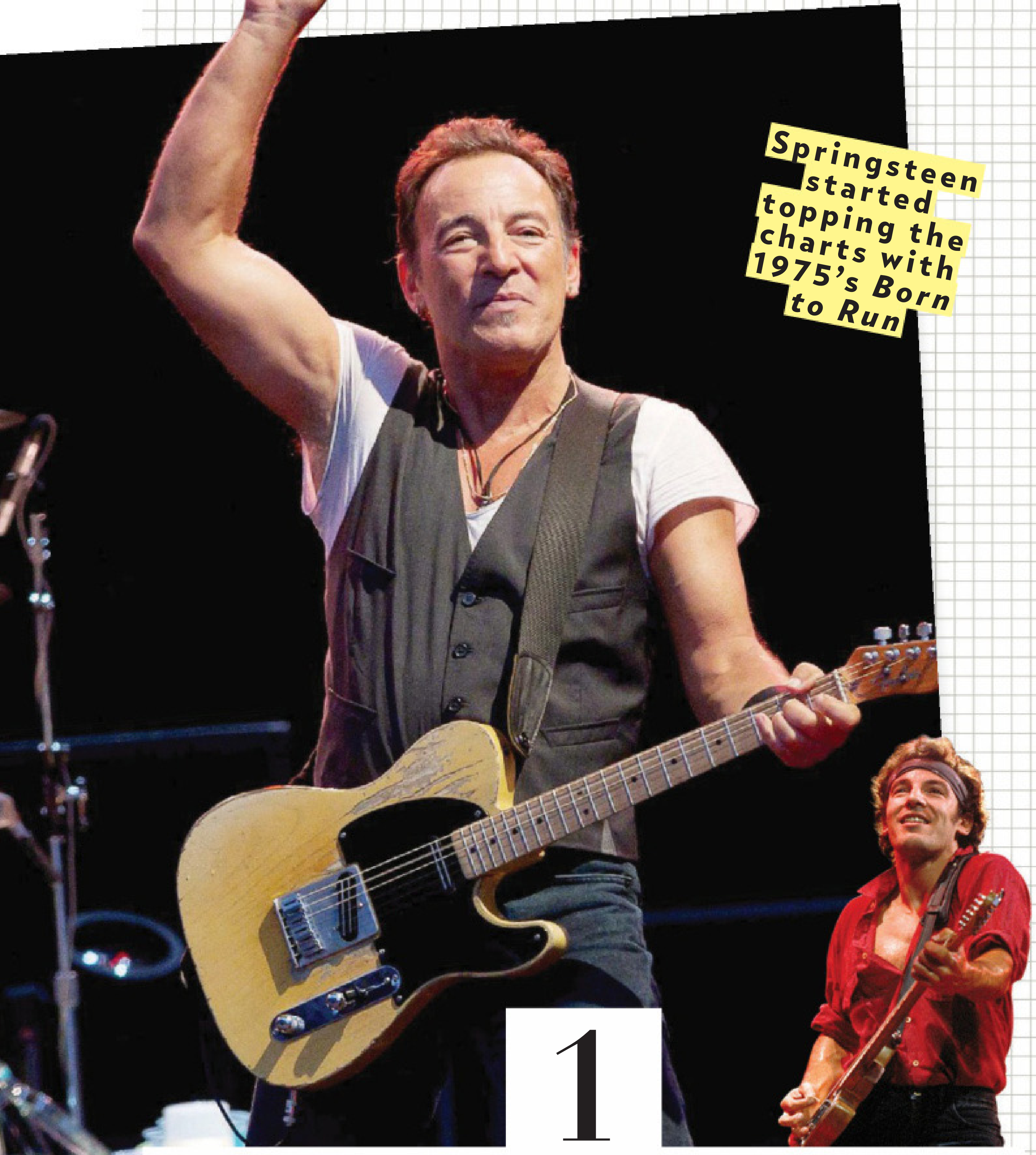
–EMMA STONE, hinting at expanding her family, to *Entertainment Tonight*

‘It’s where I’d love to live one day, and have babies and goats and sheep… Maybe a camel’

-SAM SMITH, on dreaming of living in Scotland, on BBC One’s *The One Show*

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: PIERRE SUU/GC IMAGES; KEVIN MAZUR/GETTY IMAGES; JON KOPALOFF/FILMMAGIC; PHILIPPE DOIGNON/SIPA/SHUTTERSTOCK; GREGG DEGUIRE/FILMMAGIC; EVAN AGOSTINI/INVISION/AP/SHUTTERSTOCK

5 Things We're Talking About *this week!*



Springsteen started topping the charts with 1975's *Born to Run*

1

The Boss sets a record for the ages

He's on fire! Bruce Springsteen became the first artist to have a Top 5 album in each of the last six decades with the release last month of his latest record *Letter to You,* which debuted at No. 2 on the Billboard 200.

2

Friends makeup is there for you

"The Rachel" isn't just a haircut: It's a lip color! After its first collection quickly sold out, Revolution Beauty dropped a second set of affordable *Friends* cosmetics at Ulta.

3

Wedding Crashers may get a sequel

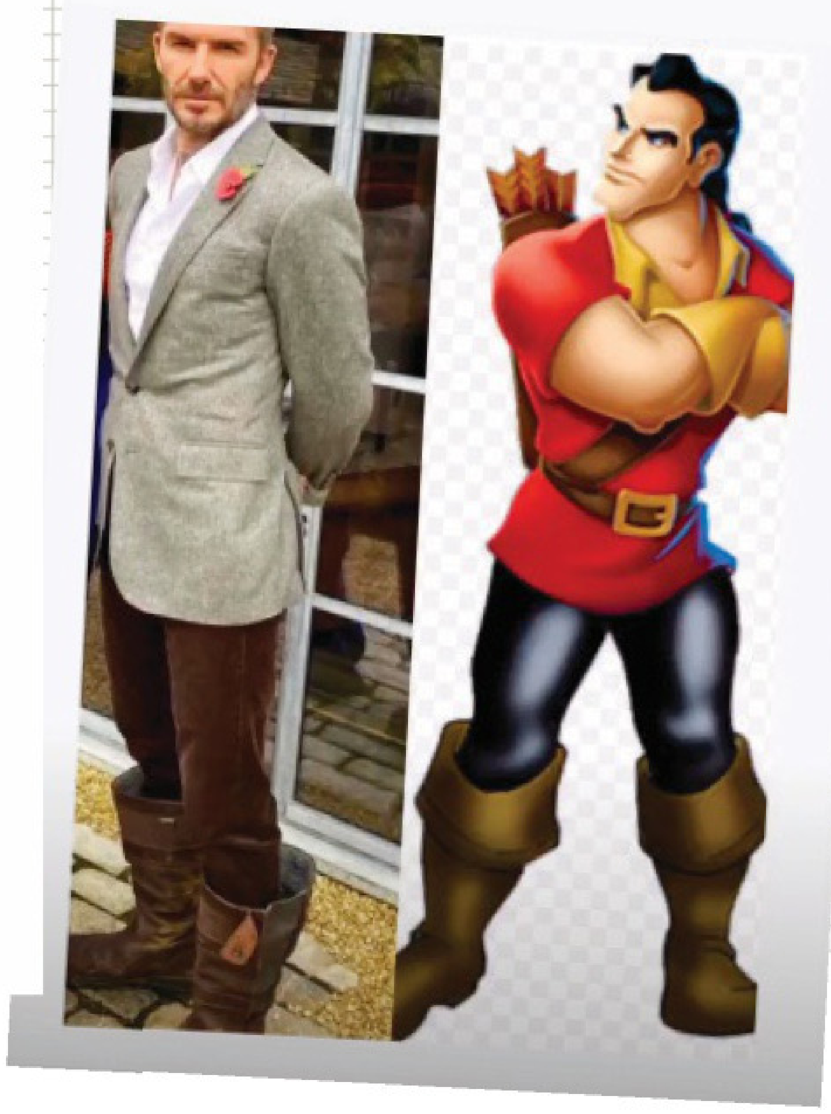
Vince Vaughn (right) said he and costar Owen Wilson have been "seriously" discussing a follow-up to the 2005 comedy. Never leave a fellow crasher behind!

4

Victoria Beckham disses David's style

The fashion designer likened the boots her husband wore to those of *Beauty and the Beast* villain Gaston—and David retorted that "revenge will be sweet" for trolling him.

Gaston wants his boots back @davidbeckham



Pop's cutest couple have a new pal!

5

Shawn and Camila adopt a dog

And puppy makes three! Singers Mendes and Cabello introduced Tarzan. "During uncertain times like this we need a reminder that sweet miracle things like puppies exist," she wrote on Instagram.

(SPRINGSTEEN) MATS ANDERSSON/WENN; EBET ROBERTS/REDFERNS/GETTY IMAGES; (FRIENDS) DAVE BJERKE/NBCU PHOTO BANK/GETTY IMAGES; (WEDDING CRASHERS) MOVIESTORE/REX SHUTTERSTOCK; (CABELLO & MENDES) JEFF KRAVITZ/FILMMAGIC

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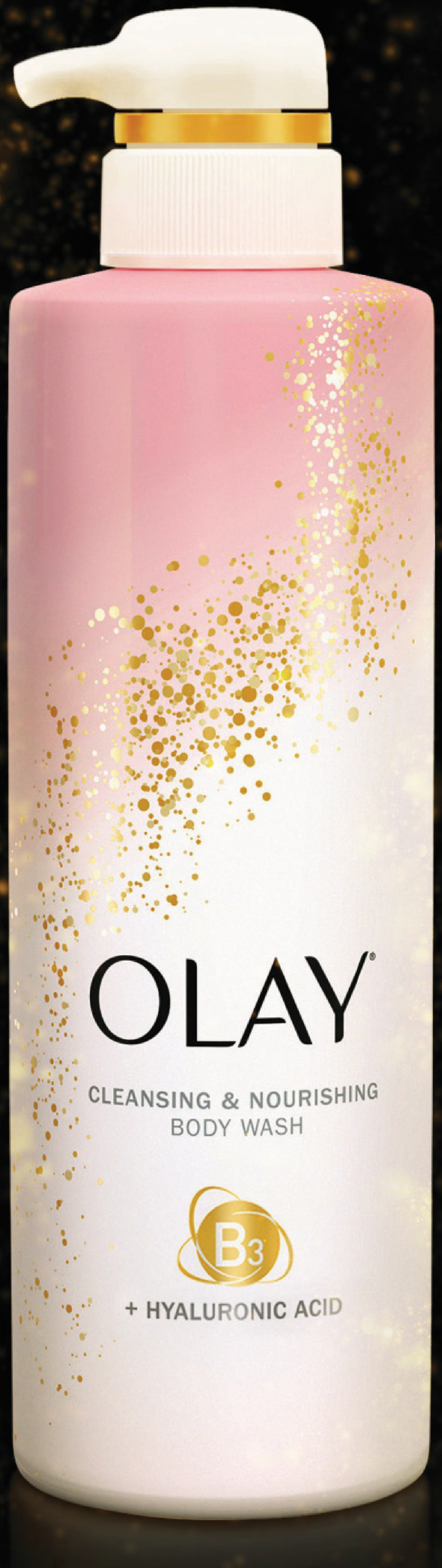
EXPERIENCE

SKIN CARE INSPIRED
BODY WASH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CLEANSING & NOURISHING
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like vitamin C, collagen,
and hyaluronic acid.

Improves Skin 3x Better*

*vs. leading body wash after 14 days of use, based on clinical moisture retention.

People

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Joe Biden and Kamala Harris vow to bridge the nation's divides.

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Inside the amazing life and lasting legacy of the longtime *Jeopardy!* host.

ON THE COVER Photographs by Gioncarlo Valentine(2). Inset: Courtesy Jeopardy Productions Inc.

editor's note

A History-Making Moment

In the 46 years of *People*'s existence, our covers have marked all the biggest events in American history: national celebrations, tragedies and new Presidents. The 2020 election took place in a divided nation. But we, like most Americans, believe there is more that unites us than separates us. This week our cover features Joe Biden and Kamala Harris, the President-elect and the woman who will become the first female, Black and Asian-American Vice President. Whatever your politics, we hope you will find our story compelling.

Dan

DAN WAKEFORD,
EDITOR IN CHIEF

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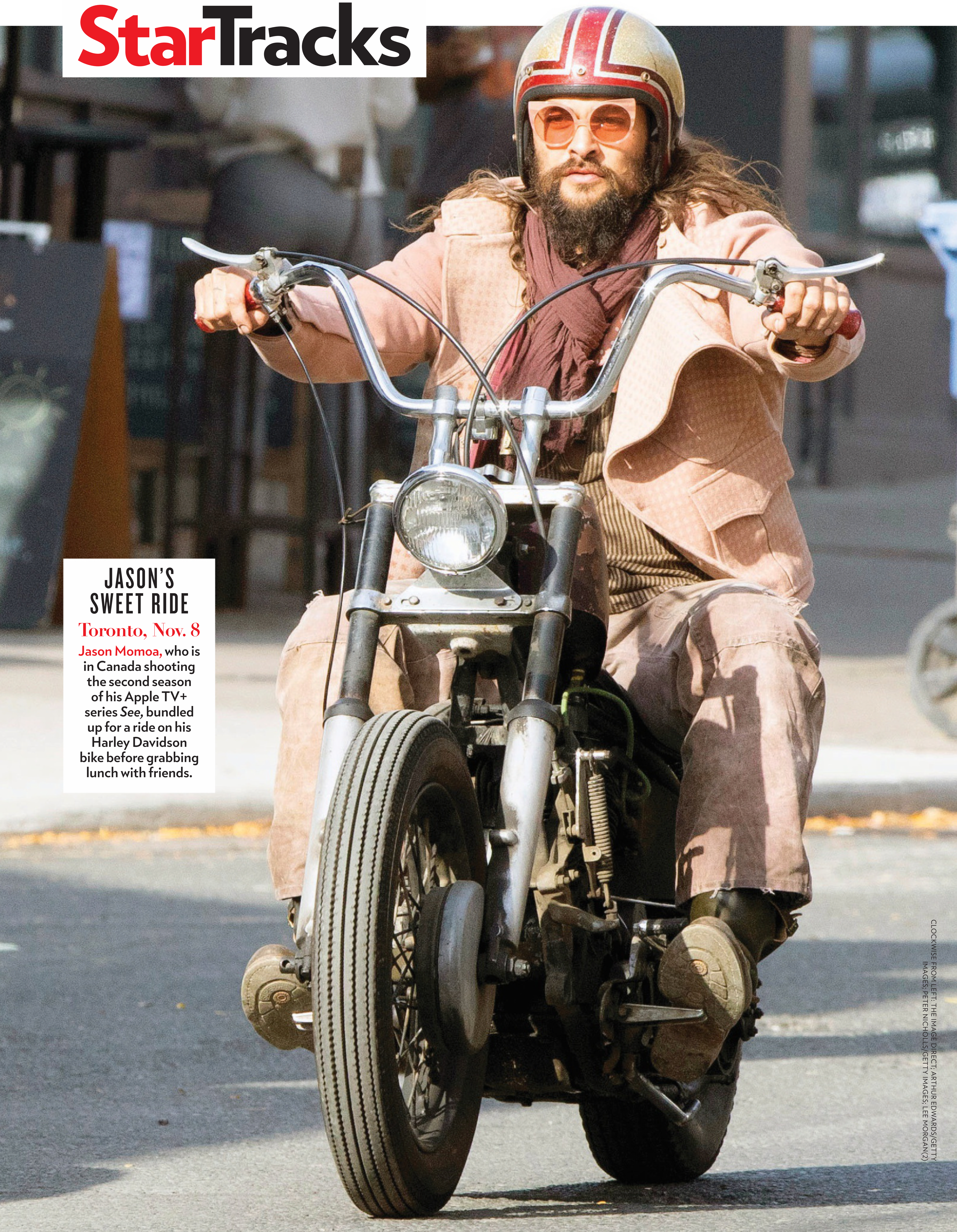
A ROYAL FAMILY HOLIDAY ALBUM
WILL & KATE: CARRYING ON CUSTOMS
GAG GIFTS! A WINDSOR TRADITION
A PALACE CHEF'S PLUM PUDDING RECIPE

***People*'s new special edition *Christmas with the Queen: A Royal Family Holiday Album* takes you inside the Windsors' annual traditions, from gag gifts to plum pudding. It's available now on Amazon and wherever magazines are sold.**



JASON'S SWEET RIDE

Toronto, Nov. 8

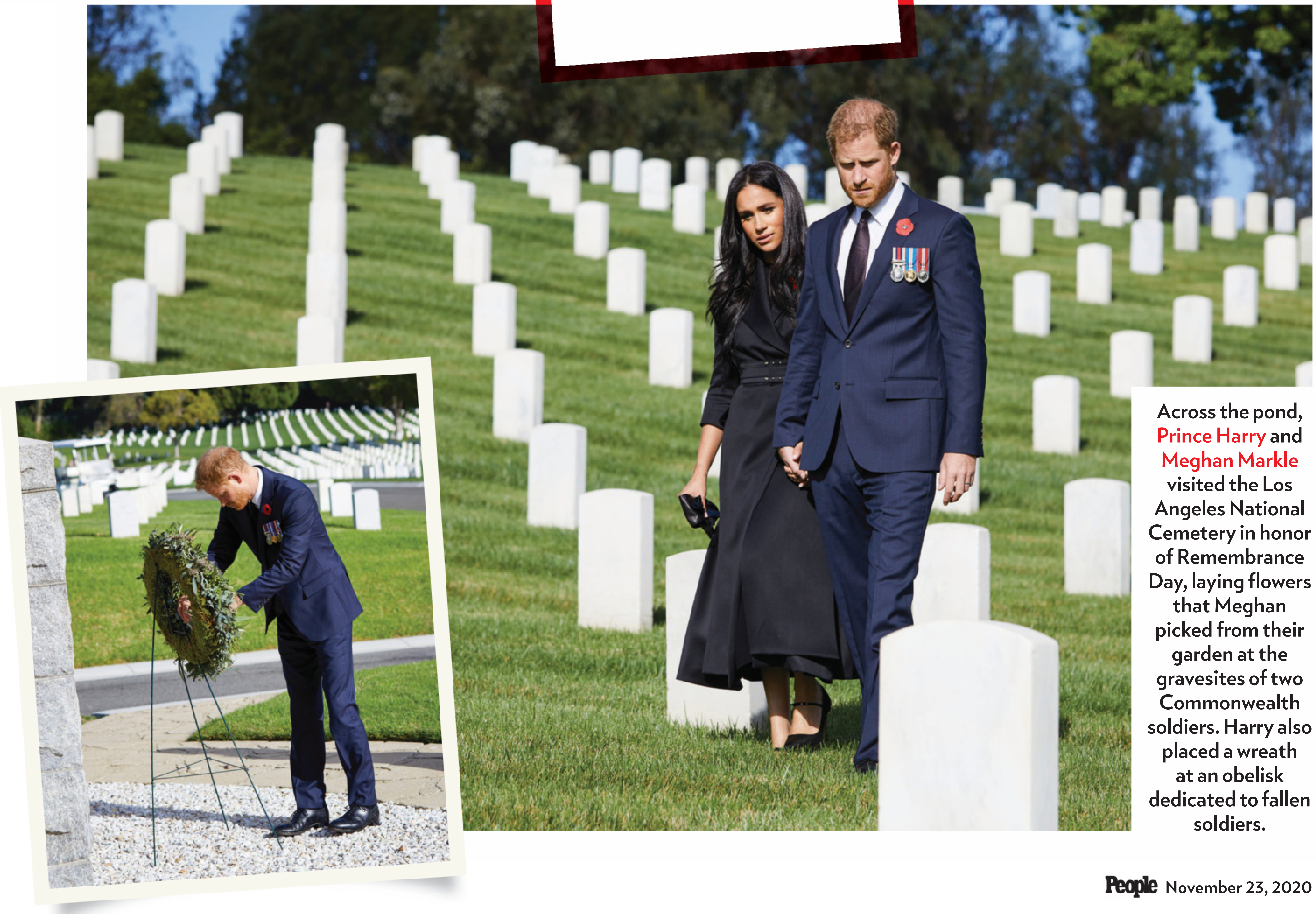
Jason Momoa, who is in Canada shooting the second season of his Apple TV+ series *See,* bundled up for a ride on his Harley Davidson bike before grabbing lunch with friends.

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: THE IMAGE DIRECT; ARTHUR EDWARDS/GETTY IMAGES; PETER NICHOLLS/GETTY IMAGES; LEE MORGAN(2)

ROYALS MARK REMEMBRANCE DAY

Prince William and Prince Charles wore their military uniforms to lay wreaths of poppies during the annual Remembrance Day service on Nov. 8. The red flower has been used since 1921 to commemorate military members who died in war.

Princess Kate stood on a balcony overlooking the Cenotaph in London for the ceremony, sporting a Catherine Walker & Co. military-style coat adorned with a poppy pin.



Across the pond, Prince Harry and Meghan Markle visited the Los Angeles National Cemetery in honor of Remembrance Day, laying flowers that Meghan picked from their garden at the gravesites of two Commonwealth soldiers. Harry also placed a wreath at an obelisk dedicated to fallen soldiers.

CHRIS' MARVELOUS ABS

Byron Bay, Australia Nov. 5

Chris Hemsworth showed off his chiseled physique after hitting the beach.

Order on the app or onlin
Temporary Hours of Operation

ARIEL ON THE MOVE

Los Angeles, Nov. 8

Modern Family actress **Ariel Winter**—who was reportedly house-hunting this fall—lugged around a humongous roll of bubble wrap.

SCENE STEALERS

New York City, Nov. 2

Ewan McGregor and **Rebecca Dayan** dressed to the nines while shooting scenes for Netflix's *Simply Halston* series, based on the fashion designer.

ORLANDO'S NEW FURRY FRIEND

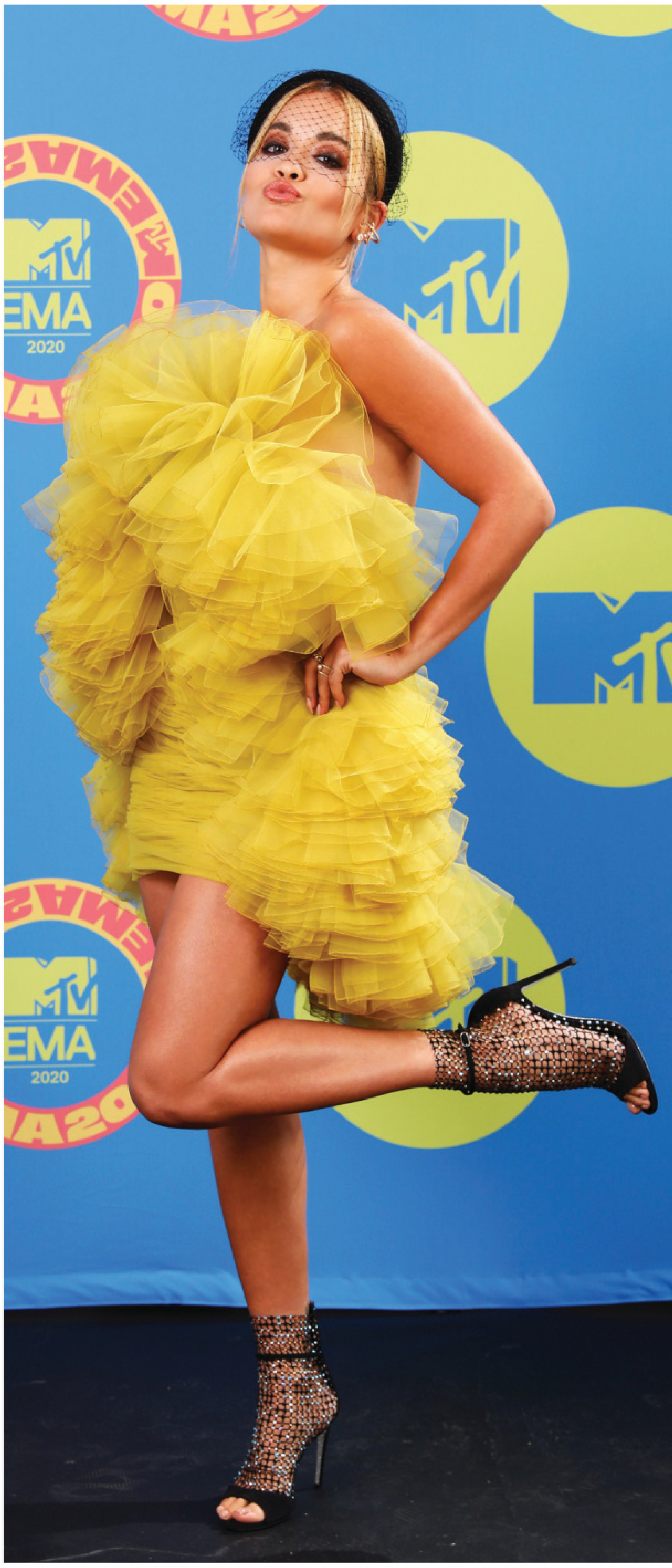
Montecito, Calif., Nov. 8

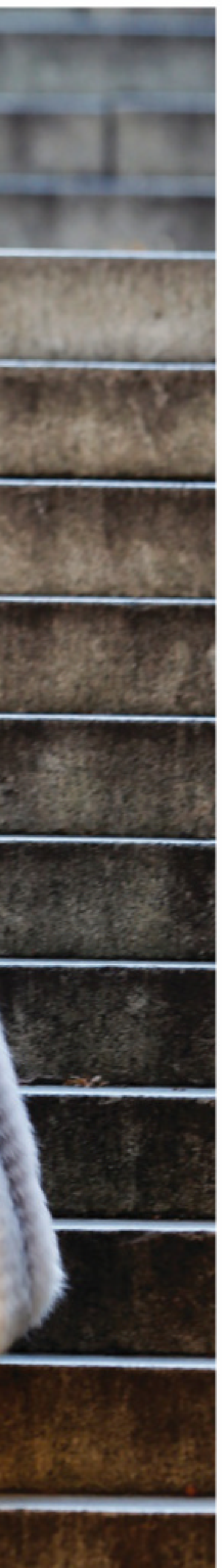
Orlando Bloom stepped out with a new puppy nearly four months after mourning the loss of his beloved dog Mighty.

RITA'S SUNNY RED CARPET LOOK

London, Nov. 8

British pop star **Rita Ora** rocked a canary yellow dress and black fascinator on the red carpet at MTV's European Music Awards.





GRACIE BARRA
BARRA

KARATE KIDS

Mario Lopez, son **Dominic,** 7, and daughter **Gia,** 10, got their fight on at a jujitsu class. "Saturday morning beat down on dad," Lopez captioned a Nov. 7 Instagram from the studio.

COUNTERCLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: TIM P. WHITBY/GETTY IMAGES; BACKGRID; MEDIA-MODE/SPLASH NEWS; P&P/MEGA; STEVE SANDS/SPLASH NEWS

CUTE COUPLES

MP
GARDEN
RESTAURANT
CKTAIL LOUNGE

Chrissy Teigen and **John Legend** celebrated President-elect Joe Biden's victory in a drive-by caravan in Los Angeles on Nov. 7. "Everyone is so beautiful and so happy, I'm crying," Teigen wrote on Twitter of the event. (For more on the historic election, see page 32.)

ART
MENSIONS
GALLERY
LOCAL AUTHORITY
FUCKED UP FRIENDS CLUB

Machine Gun Kelly and girlfriend **Megan Fox** held hands during a Nov. 6 stroll in Los Angeles.

"Pumpkin spiced dorks," **Wells Adams** captioned an autumnal Nov. 8 selfie with fiancée **Sarah Hyland.**

COUNTERCLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM RIGHT: BACKGRID; SAL/GIO/BACKGRID; THE IMAGE DIRECT; AMANDA EDWARDS/GETTY IMAGES; JAVILES/BRUCE/BACKGRID

LAUGHING MAN COFFEE COMPANY
6ft
Citarella
FRESH FROM THE SOURCE SINCE 1912
GOURMET MARKETS
NEW YORK | HAMPTONS

Hugh Jackman and wife **Deborra-Lee Furness** masked up for a walk with their dogs through New York City on Nov. 7.

Rappers **Saweetie** and **Quavo** (of hip-hop trio Migos) stepped out for a date night in Los Angeles on Nov. 7.

Also at the Biden victory parade: **Gwyneth Paltrow** and husband **Brad Falchuk** in a classic Mercedes-Benz convertible.

A REFRESHING GUM

WRIGLEY'S
Extra
LONG LASTING FLAVOR
Refreshers
SPEARMINT

give Extra GET extra.

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EXCLUSIVE
People
EXCLUSIVE

Super Sparkler After conferring with Crawley early in the season, designer Neil Lane says he created her 4.5-carat dream ring in "record time."

FROM LEFT: WARNER BROS.; CRAIG SJODIN/ABC; INSET: COURTESY NEIL LANE

Clare Crawley and Dale Moss Blow Up *The Bachelorette*

'It Was All Worth It!'

She generated shock waves throughout Bachelor Nation when she left *The Bachelorette* mid-season after falling for one of her contestants, but Clare Crawley says she never intended for her season of the show to break the mold the way it did.

"I get that it's not the traditional way the show has played out," says Crawley, 39, who got engaged to former football player Dale Moss just two weeks into filming, paving the way for new Bachelorette Tayshia Adams to step in (see sidebar), the first time the show has ever had to bring in a replacement lead. "I've been through a lot to get to the point where I know what I want—and you can't put a timeline on love. If being a woman who follows my heart and honors my truth is 'blowing up' *The Bachelorette,* then I'd do it again, every day."

Adds Moss, 32: "I've never been afraid of commitment. And as soon as I met Clare, I knew I was going to go for broke. There's no halfway. It's all-in or nothing." Indeed, the attraction between Crawley and Moss was tangible, sparked in part even before the couple had met

>>

Love at First Sight
"I was so excited to meet Dale," says Crawley. Adds Moss: "I felt an instant spark. She lit a fire in me."

face-to-face. Forced to delay the filming of her season due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Crawley, who was previously engaged to Benoit Beauséjour-Savard on *The Bachelor Winter Games* in 2018, was faced with the unique opportunity to research some of her soon-to-be suitors. "There were a lot of personal things on Dale's Instagram that I connected with," says Crawley, who, like Moss, lost a parent; her father, James, died in 2004, and his mother, Delores, in 2017. On the very first night of filming, meeting Moss "was like lightning," she says.

Despite her feeling so drawn to Moss, Crawley says, she continued to put "100 percent" effort into getting to know the 30 other contestants. "I took a lot of time to see what I liked and what I didn't like, but it always led back to Dale," she says. Ultimately "things started to make a turn by the last group date," says Crawley, and when host Chris Harrison presented her with the plan that she break up with the other men to leave the show with Moss, "I was like, 'I'm down for this,' " she says. "It may be fast for some people, but when you know, you know. And I wholeheartedly believed in what we had."

Still, the hairstylist says she didn't insist on a proposal. "Chris sprung that on us!" says Crawley. "Contrary to what it looked like, I'm not in a rush. And I told Dale that there was no pressure. He could have not proposed, and I would still be with him and love him as much as I do now." Moss didn't balk at the accelerated timeline. "I wasn't stressed," he says. "It's nerve-racking and it's scary to come into that situation, but when we felt it, we were no longer afraid. It was like, we're here, we have love, and we are doing this together. We can figure everything else out."

'I'VE WAITED A LONG TIME FOR THIS. WE ALL DESERVE TO FIND LOVE AND HAPPINESS'
—CLARE CRAWLEY

Now, months into their engagement, Crawley and Moss are even more in love. "Dale is the yin to my yang," she says. "He balances me out. I was a complete woman before, but to have a man who gets you, that means everything." The couple currently are house hunting in her native Sacramento (Crawley wants to remain close to her mother, who is living with dementia) and talking wedding plans. "We could go to the courthouse tomorrow and be happy," says Crawley. "Whether it's next week or next year, we have our whole lives together." As for expanding the family? Says Crawley: "Babies are definitely on the agenda!" —**AILI NAHAS**

Unbreakable Bond
"This is the happiest time in my life," says Crawley, with Moss and her dog Honey in early November.

TAYSHIA TAKES OVER

Tayshia Adams admits she had no idea how things would turn out when show producers asked her to quarantine while Crawley's season was filming. "I had been in talks prior and was really sad when I wasn't chosen," says Adams, 30, a fan favorite who appeared on Colton Underwood's season of *The Bachelor* and on *Bachelor in Paradise* in 2018. "Nothing was guaranteed. So when I got the phone call that I would be the next Bachelorette [after Crawley left], it took me a minute." Nonetheless, Adams jumped in, meeting Crawley's remaining 16 men, in addition to four new contestants. "It was a worry for me that most of the guys were [initially] there for Clare," says Adams. "But once I started having conversations, they reassured me. It wasn't a lingering feeling." She's staying mum on the outcome of her unprecedented season, but "I'm happy," Adams teases. "I learned a lot and I grew a lot, and that's all I could really ask for."

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: CRAIG SJODIN/ABC; KWAKU ALSTON/ABC; CRAIG SJODIN/ABC; WARNER BROS.

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CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT: FRAZER HARRISON/GETTY IMAGES; SARA JAYE WEISS/SHUTTERSTOCK; ERIC MCCANDLESS/ABC/GETTY IMAGES; NEILSON BARNARD/GETTY IMAGES

Priyanka Chopra Jonas

My Happy Life at Home (with Nick!)

Love in Lockdown Chopra Jonas and Jonas (in January) will celebrate their second wedding anniversary on Dec. 1.

The actress, 38—a fan of the wellness brand, the Well—chatted about life in quarantine with her husband, pop star Nick Jonas, 28.

How have you been keeping healthy during the pandemic? I never worked out as consistently as I have during quarantine. I also pay attention to my diet. I was very used to eating dinner right before I went to bed, but I changed that completely. I try not to eat after 8 o'clock. I start my day with some exercise, and I make sure I'm drinking lots of water. I'm a huge fan of the Well's Superpowder [a supplement for immune health]. I put it in a shake or mix it into my yogurt.

Do you and Nick have similar regimens? Nick is very particular about what he consumes and what he doesn't, especially because of his [type 1] diabetes. He's the one who got me into wellness, actually.

How are you staying connected to your family? I have started staying so much more in touch with friends and family during this pandemic. That's something I'm going to continue. I never realized how much it means for your soul to consistently be in touch with people you love. I used to get so consumed by work that it ended up becoming my existence.

> *'I'M NOT GOING TO FIND BALANCE THE NEXT TIME I WEAR HEELS—I'M DEFINITELY FALLING ON THE CARPET!'*

What do date nights look like for you now? Well, I wore a sari once. Nick and I were doing date night at the house, and we were like, "Let's just get dressed today." And I was like, "All right, I'm going to go wear a sari."

Do you have a work-from-home uniform? I'm usually on a lot of Zooms, so my top half is more presentable. Waist down has been sweats and flats. I'll wear lipstick sometimes, but I haven't worn heels in a really long time.

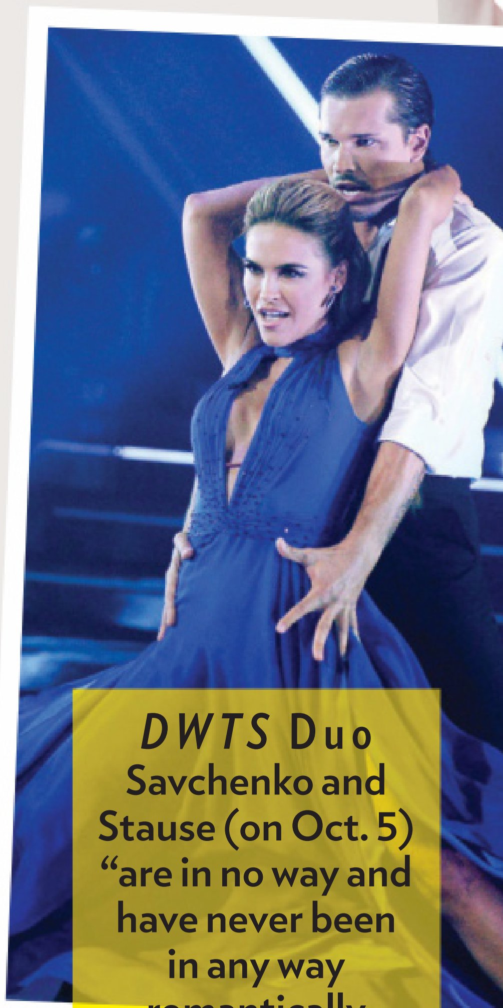
—BRITTANY TALARICO

Entertain
L'OREAL
PAR

Shattered Marriage Savchenko and wife Samodanova in 2017.

A *Dancing with the Stars* Pro's Messy Divorce Drama

Dancing with the Stars pro Gleb Savchenko's divorce from Elena Samodanova is getting acrimonious. After announcing their split on Nov. 6, dancer Samodanova, 36, claimed to *People* that "ongoing infidelity and a recent inappropriate relationship" ended their 14-year marriage. Savchenko, who has two young daughters with his wife, quickly denied speculation about a fling with his latest *DWTS* partner, *Selling Sunset's* Chrishell Stause, 39. "I will not stand by and allow false accusations and internet rumors go unaddressed," Savchenko, 37, said. "My relationship with Chrishell was and remains strictly platonic.… Our friendship during our season on *DWTS* was not the reason for our split." Stause's rep spoke out too, saying any claim that "Chrishell is in any way involved in the dissolution of Gleb and Elena's marriage is 100 percent categorically false."



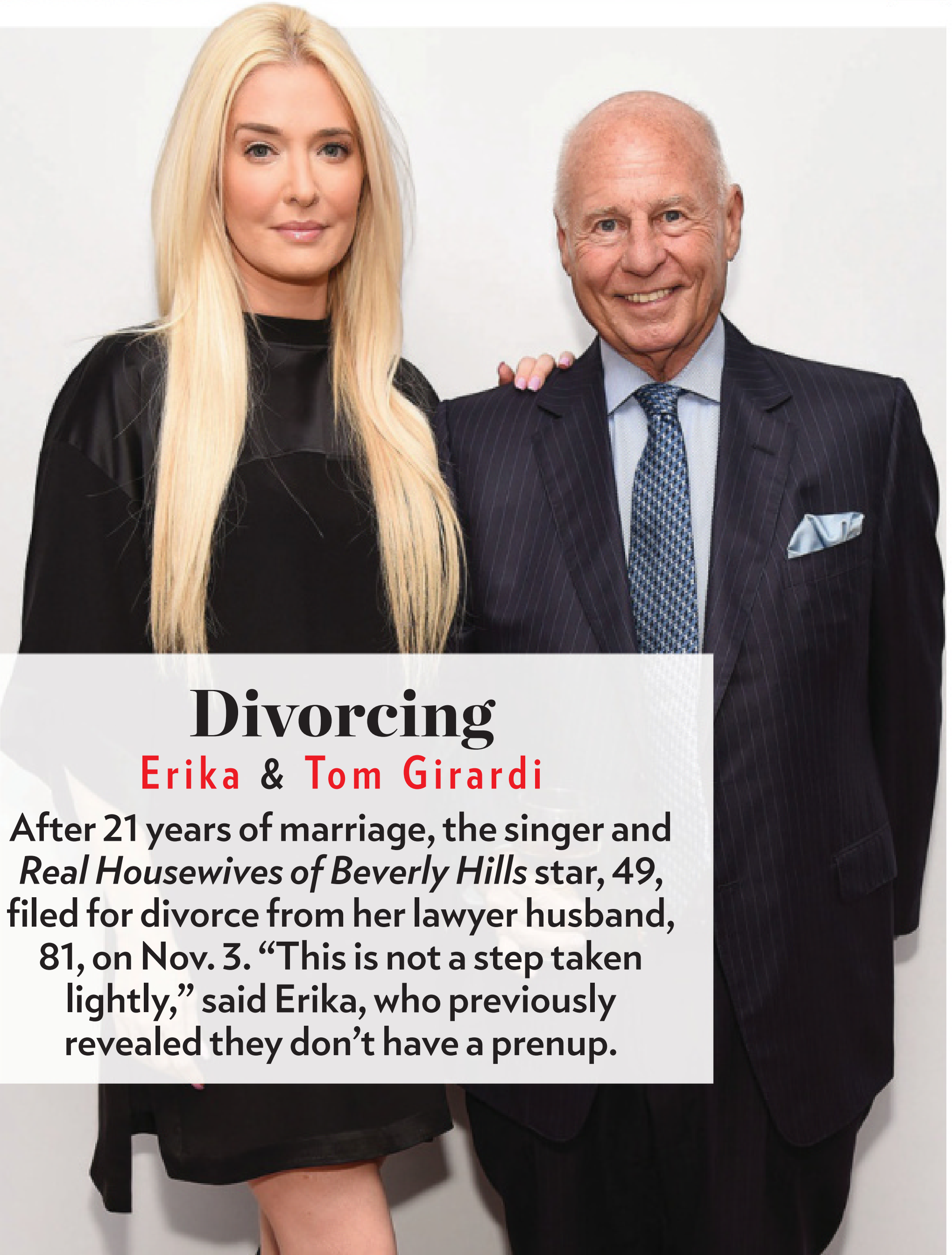
***DWTS* Duo** Savchenko and Stause (on Oct. 5) "are in no way and have never been in any way romantically involved," says Stause's rep.

HEART MONITOR

Getting Serious

Kate Moss & Nikolai von Bismarck

The supermodel, 46, and the photographer, 33, have dated for five years, and while he gave her an emerald and diamond ring for that finger, "I'm not engaged," she told the U.K. paper *The Telegraph*. "It's more like, I'm in a relationship, I'm committed."



Divorcing

Erika & Tom Girardi

After 21 years of marriage, the singer and *Real Housewives of Beverly Hills* star, 49, filed for divorce from her lawyer husband, 81, on Nov. 3. "This is not a step taken lightly," said Erika, who previously revealed they don't have a prenup.

IN THE NEI
RHO
ER 22

Engagement Off

Susan Kelechi Watson & Jaime Lincoln Smith

A year after announcing her engagement to actor Smith, the *This Is Us* star coyly revealed on Nov. 7 that they had split. "I thought becoming Single was gonna be the only eventful thing to happen to me this year," she posted of the election results.

Going Strong

Julia Michaels & JP Saxe

The "Issues" singer, 27, says her romance with musician Saxe, 27—whom she began dating after they teamed up on the hit single "If the World Was Ending" last year—is "thriving," adding: "He puts up with all my BS."

CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM LEFT: STEVE EICHNER/NAMEFACE/SIPA USA; MEHDI TAAMALLAH/NURPHOTO/GETTY IMAGES; DOMINIK BINDL/FILMMAGIC

Vanessa Lachey

Motherhood, Movies & Staying Sane

Finding Joy "I love Christmas traditions," says Lachey (above, with costar Ryan McPartlin and, below, with her family in 2019).

Like most parents, Vanessa Lachey has had plenty to contend with as she navigates life in quarantine. "It's another level of challenging yourself," says the actress and mom of Camden, 8, Brooklyn, 5, and Phoenix, 3, with husband Nick Lachey, 47. "The whole self-care thing went out the window!" Now she's back at work with a new holiday movie, People Presents: Once upon a Main Street, *premiering Nov. 29 on Lifetime. "I love Christmas," says Lachey, 40. "And this year there is so much to be grateful for."*

The movie is set at Christmastime, but you filmed in Lake Tahoe, Nev., in the summer. What was that like? It was over 110° some days! My costar Ryan McPartlin had ice packs taped around his body. We would sit in the car with the AC on, and right before they said action, we'd put on jackets and scarves and get outside. We just found the comedy in it. We had to laugh!

How was it shooting during the pandemic? We wore masks, and we took two tests a day, but we were all just so appreciative to be working. Nick came up to see me, and we went river rafting and took naps. [Nick's band] 98 Degrees actually sings "Season of Love," which is the title song in the movie. It's always special when our creative worlds come together.

How did you keep the kids entertained during quarantine? We put a bounce house in the living room. We'd bounce in the morning and at night. Camden started skateboarding, and Brooklyn and Phoenix got really close—the trouble twosome!

What have you learned about yourself during the pandemic? I have to find ways to take a minute so that I don't snap or scream or cry and so that I can be the best version of Mommy and the best version of a wife. It's 2020—do what makes you happy!

—AILI NAHAS

Al Roker Reveals 'Aggressive' Prostate Cancer Diagnosis

Longtime *Today* show cohost Al Roker, 66, revealed on-air Nov. 6 that he has prostate cancer. "It's a good news/bad news kind of thing," he said of the diagnosis, made after a routine physical in September. "Good news is we caught it early. Not-great news is that it's a little aggressive, so I'm going to be taking some time off to take care of this." Roker, who is married to journalist Deborah Roberts and has three adult kids, will have surgery to remove his prostate, but he hopes to return to work by late November. When caught early, prostate cancer has a nearly 100 percent survival rate. The beloved weatherman said he shared his diagnosis to remind men (particularly Black men, who are twice as likely as white men in the U.S. to die from the disease) to get screened: "We can all learn together how to educate and protect the men in our lives."

—KARA WARNER

CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM LEFT: NATHAN CONGLETON/NBCU PHOTO BANK/GETTY IMAGES; MICHAEL OKIMOTO; MICHAEL KOVAC/GETTY IMAGES

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Meet Your Hosts!
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Lawrence K. Jackson
Kay Adams
Jeremy Parsons

COUNTERCLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: BROOKE NIPAR; MILLER MOBLEY; RORY DOYLE; MELANIE ACEVEDO; SARAH WILSON; BEN TRIVETT; JIM KIERNAN(3)

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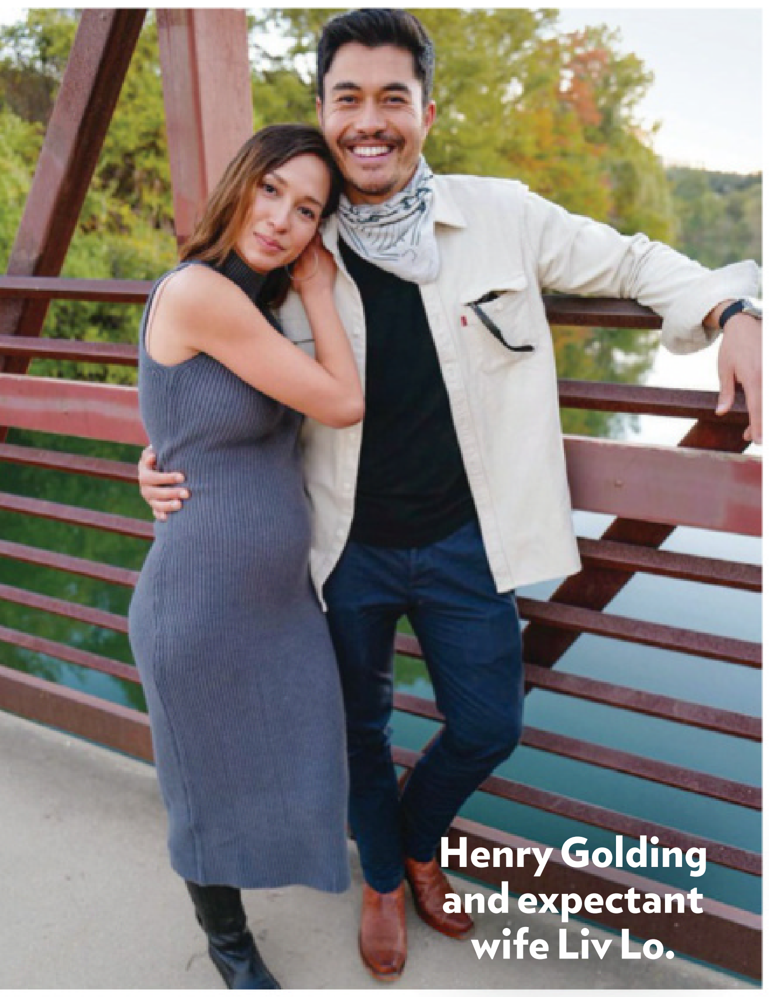


Henry Golding and expectant wife Liv Lo.

Babies

Actor **Henry Golding,** 33, and wife **Liv Lo,** 35, announced they'll welcome their first child next year. ● *Dancing with the Stars* pro **Lindsay Arnold,** 26, and husband **Samuel Lightner Cusick,** also 26, celebrated the arrival of their first child, daughter **Sage Jill,** on Nov. 2. ● *All That's* **Kel Mitchell,** 42, and wife **Asia Lee,** 36, welcomed their second child together, son **Honor,** on Oct. 23. The couple also share daughter **Wisdom,** 3, and Mitchell is dad to daughter **Allure,** 19, and son **Lyric,** 21, from his first marriage. ● Just weeks after The Wanted's **Tom Parker,** 32, revealed his stage four glioblastoma diagnosis, the British singer and his wife, **Kelsey Hardwick,** 30, made daughter **Aurelia Rose,** 16 months, a big sister with the Oct. 26 arrival of son **Bodhi Thomas.**

Engagements

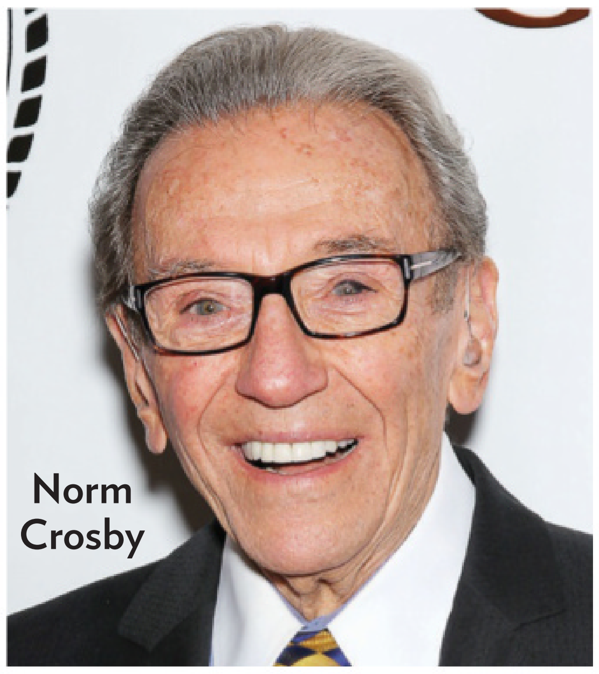
NBA star **Paul George,** 30, got engaged to swimwear company owner **Daniela Rajic,** also 30, on Nov. 6. They share daughters **Natasha,** 3, and **Olivia,** 6. ● *Bachelor in Paradise's* **Derek Peth,** 33, asked model **Saffron Vadher,** 23, to marry him, and "she said yes!!!" he tweeted. ● Peth's *Bachelor in Paradise* costar **John Graham,** 31, got engaged, to girlfriend **Brittni Nowell,** also 31.

Health

White House Chief of Staff **Mark Meadows,** 61, tested positive for COVID-19. Secretary of Housing and Urban Development **Ben Carson,** 69, also tested positive. ● Pregnant reality star **Khadijah Haqq McCray,** 37, revealed she was hospitalized with a "preterm labor scare" and is now home on bed rest.

Happy Birthday!

Meg Ryan, 59
Nov. 19, 1961
Michael Strahan, 49
Nov. 21, 1971
Jamie Lee Curtis, 62
Nov. 22, 1958



Norm Crosby

Deaths

Comedian **Norm Crosby**, who appeared on *The Tonight Show Starring Johnny Carson* and on telethons with Jerry Lewis, died of heart failure on Nov. 7. He was 93. ● **Bert Belasco,** star of *Pitch* and BET's *Let's Stay Together,* died at 38. A cause of death has not been announced.

By DANA ROSE FALCONE

Barbara Pierce Bush

Why I *Care*
PERSONAL STORIES ABOUT GIVING BACK

Inspired by her grandfather, former President George H.W. Bush, the activist, 38, is encouraging others to volunteer

My sister Jenna and I were 7 at my grandfather's inauguration. Everyone was given a flashlight when they arrived and turned it on. It was a magical image of this sea of lights. Gampy was talking about thousands of points of light, and how each of us can be a point of light for those around us. It's very hard to describe my life without service. I love working with people and participating in events for my grandfather's organization Points of Light [a global nonprofit organization that mobilizes people to take action and volunteer]. I served as a co-chair with my sister and our cousin Wendy Stapleton at the organization's second annual awards gala in September. [The virtual event honored change-makers like Chobani's CEO Hamdi Ulukaya and sisters Shreyaa and Esha Venkat, the founders of NEST4US.] I had the chance to interact with the honorees, and what's so inspiring about them is that they're using whatever they can in their own lives to help others.

—*Reported by* SAM GILLETTE

For more information go to **PointsofLight.org**

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: JORDAN STRAUSS/INVISION/AP/SHUTTERSTOCK; MARION CURTIS/STARPIX/SHUTTERSTOCK; CINDY ORD/GETTY IMAGES

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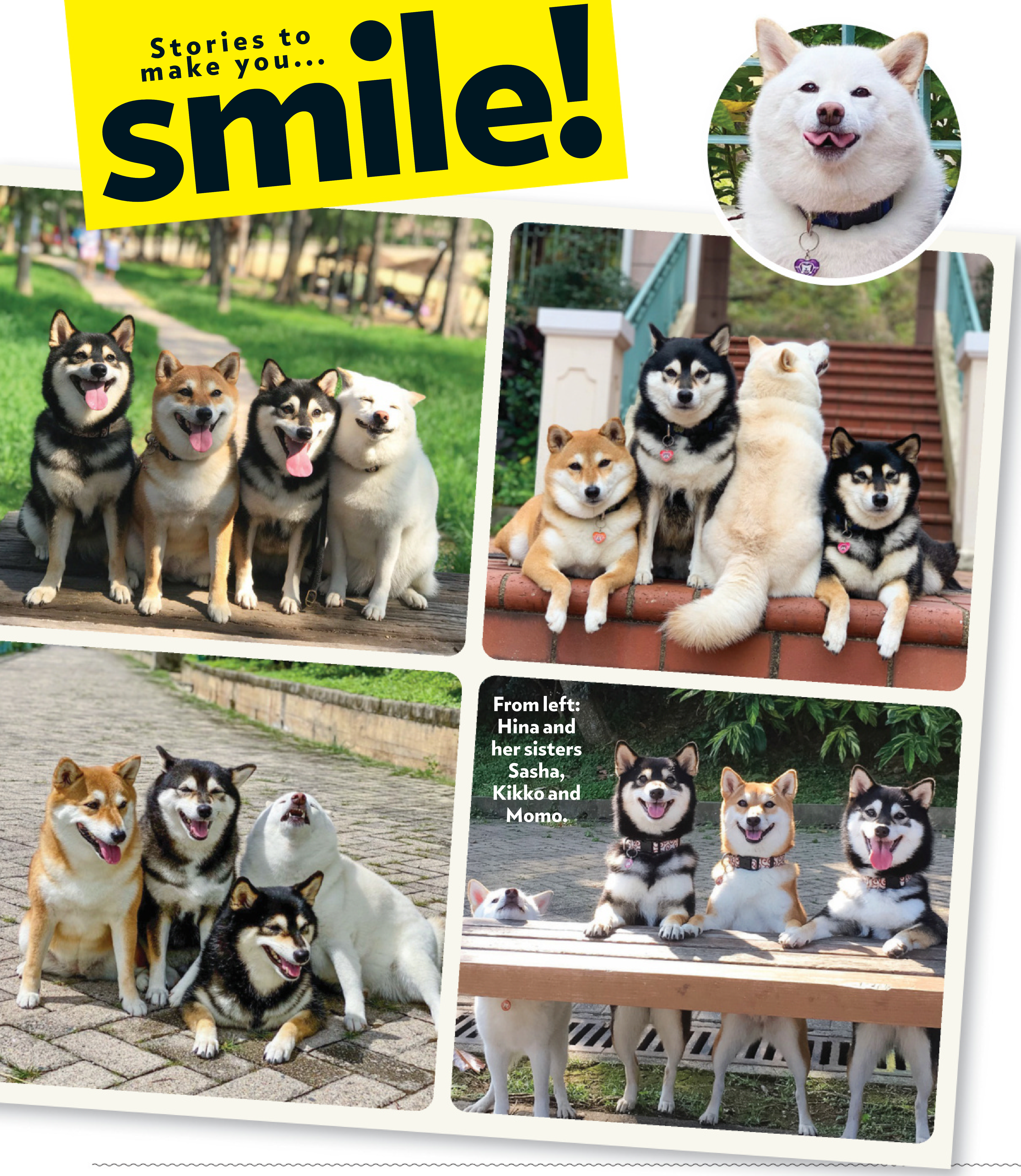
Stories to make you... smile!



From left: Hina and her sisters Sasha, Kikko and Momo.

This lovable pup brings her own special charm to the family photos

HONG KONG

With 5-year-old Hina, a white Shiba Inu, there's never a dull moment—or a perfect photo. The youngest of four dogs owned by yoga instructor Yoko Kikuchi, she's more than earned her reputation as a lovable prankster among her 118,000 Instagram (@yokokikuchi_ks) fans. "I don't think she does it on purpose; she simply isn't as patient as her sisters during the photo sessions," says Kikuchi, 53, who, along with her husband and son, got Hina as a 2-month-old puppy in 2015. Nicknamed the Destroyer when she was young for chewing everything from shoes to computer cables, Hina is actually now the best-behaved of the four dogs—off-camera. "She hasn't needed a leash since she was a pup," says Kikuchi. "I feel so proud of my girls. I love sharing them with as many people as possible."

Best friends bake up some tasty treats to thank frontline heroes

HUNTINGDON, PA.

In April, after Jeremy Uhrich, 42, caught Scott McKenzie, 58, showing off his chocolate chip cookies on Facebook, the middle school English teacher challenged his pal to a Bake-Off. McKenzie accepted and proposed they let some of their local frontline heroes judge the treats as a thank-you for their help during the pandemic. Since then, 42 Huntingdon residents have joined the pair's Cookies for Caregivers group—baking and delivering nearly 15,000 snickerdoodles, sugar cookies, cakes and more to workers at local hospitals, grocery stores and fire departments. Adds Uhrich: "This is our simple gesture to let these individuals know they're our heroes."

Uhrich (left) baking with sons Maddix, 6, and Finley, 9, and (above, at right) making a delivery with McKenzie.

FROM TOP: @YOKOKIKUCHI_KS/CATERS NEWS(5); COOKIES FOR CAREGIVERS(2)

Have a story that makes you smile?
Send suggestions to **storiestomakeyousmile@people.com**

By DIANE HERBST *and* MORGAN SMITH

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Edited By
Tom Gliatto

People picks

THE BEST STUFF TO WATCH, READ & LISTEN TO THIS WEEK!

Newcomer Corrin shines as the unhappy princess, and Anderson (inset) makes a terrific Thatcher.

DES WILLIE/NETFLIX; INSET: MARK MAINZ/NETFLIX

NETFLIX | The Crown

Introducing the dynamo named Diana!

DRAMA Over the next few weeks a number of tiny lights will blink and go out on the satellite map of Windsor-worshippers. These dark spots will represent people disgusted by the royal family after watching *The Crown*'s devastating season 4. We have finally reached the early Diana years: The world is caught up in the fairy-tale romance of Prince Charles (Josh O'Connor) and his princess (Emma Corrin), an incandescent if not terribly deep woman who soon realizes that joining the Firm is like yoking her young soul to Wicked Stepsisters Inc. We watch in dismay as the royals, instead of thanking the rain gods for ending a prolonged drought of charisma, expect her to do what Elizabeth was taught to do in season 1: fold one gloved hand over the other—actually, Diana didn't like gloves—and stick to a soul-killing routine of protocol. Charles screams at her for being popular. Elizabeth (Olivia Colman) prefers to ignore rumors that she has an eating disorder. Awful people! You ask: Is Emma Corrin's Diana good? Yes, excellent. She gets all the mannerisms right—the flirtatious backward glance, the soft twist of the mouth—and has an appealing emotional directness. The season also brings in Gillian Anderson's Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. The show makes her faintly ridiculous in her perpetual hectoring overdrive to reverse England's decline—Thatcher was about as ridiculous as a poll tax—but Anderson is entertaining. *(Launches Nov. 15)*

> 'Is Emma Corrin's Diana good? Yes, excellent'

NETFLIX | The Life Ahead

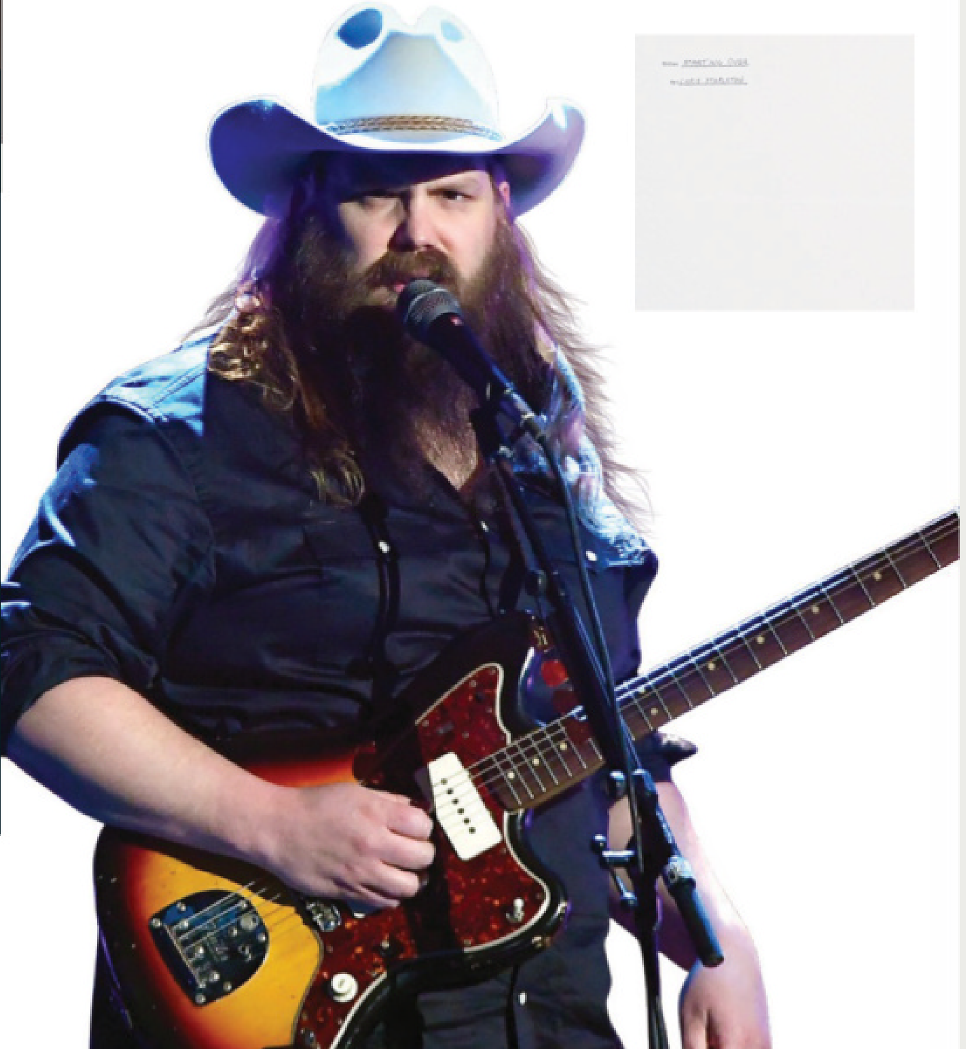
Sophia Loren returns in her first movie in more than a decade

DRAMA Now 86, the legendary Italian actress hasn't appeared in a film since 2009's *Nine*. Here she's Madame Rosa, a former prostitute (and Holocaust survivor) who serves as informal day-care supervisor and mother hen to the children of other prostitutes in a working-class Puglia neighborhood. The latest kid in her care, Momo (Ibrahima Gueye), bristles at her authority and sells drugs on the side—it will be up to Madame Rosa, despite her failing heath, to make him follow the path of goodness. It's a sentimental story, but Loren's impressively no-nonsense performance is pathos-free. Her Rosa is close to exhaustion but somehow firm, kept upright by resolute decency. *(Launches Nov. 13)*

***Life* force: Loren (with Gueye).**

MUSIC | Chris Stapleton, *Starting Over*

COUNTRY The Grammy-winning country powerhouse returns—gale-force voice and sharp pen intact—for another sterling set of vivid songs rendered impeccably, from blues-rock blowouts ("Devil Always Made Me Think Twice") to leisurely country-western ("When I'm with You"). *(Nov. 13)*



ABC | Big Sky

DRAMA A private detective (Ryan Phillippe) is in a tangle: Even though his marriage has been falling apart, he doesn't give his ex-cop wife (*Vikings'* Katheryn Winnick) the heads-up that he may be romantically involved with his partner in sleuthing (Kylie Bunbury). Then they all get caught up in a kidnapping case that blows the show wide open. The premiere, at any rate, will have audiences buzzing. *(Nov. 17, 10 p.m.)*

Q&A

Lily Rabe

The actress, 38, plays a crafty lawyer in the HBO thriller The Undoing *(Sundays, 9 p.m.), starring Nicole Kidman and Hugh Grant.*

How was working with Nicole Kidman?
She's ferociously intelligent, boundlessly generous and deeply curious.

What do you enjoy most about a twisty-turny project like this?
I love a story that you can't get ahead of, and one where no single character is a hero.

What's kept you sane during such a turbulent year?
My children. My partner [Hamish Linklater]. My friends. Wine.

You've been in nearly every season of *American Horror Story*—how about the next one?
I can say that I'm coming back. And that I love what I've read. I think it will be a special season.

—KARA WARNER

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: ATILGAN OZDIL/ANADOLU AGENCY/GETTY IMAGES; NIKO TAVERNISE/HBO; KEVORK DJANSEZIAN/GETTY IMAGES; DARKO SIKMAN/ABC; REGINE DE LAZZARIS AKA GRETA

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: NEON; HULU; NETFLIX; THE RIKER BROTHERS; GARETH GATRELL/NETFLIX

NETFLIX | Jingle Jangle: A Christmas Journey

FAMILY Oscar winner Forest Whitaker gives a sweetly forlorn performance in this holiday fantasy. He's Jeronicus Jangle, a brilliant inventor and toymaker who loses his faith and hope in the world. His granddaughter (Madalen Mills) comes to the rescue. The ornately glittery, snow-dusted production can feel overwhelming—it's a bit like sharing a subway seat with a Christmas tree—but kids will be captivated. *(Launches Nov. 13)*

Winslet (left) and Ronan.

MOVIE | Ammonite

DRAMA Kate Winslet isn't much of a smiler: Her strength as an actress is a seriousness, a weighted rootedness, as if she were shouldering rocks. Here she's Mary Anning, an amateur paleontologist on the south English coast in the 1800s. Mary strikes up a passionate relationship with another woman (Saoirse Ronan), who's as elusively fragile as Mary is stolid. You can think of *Ammonite* as a period *Thelma and Louise,* but it's class that intervenes, not the law. The actresses are excellent. *(Nov. 13, R)*

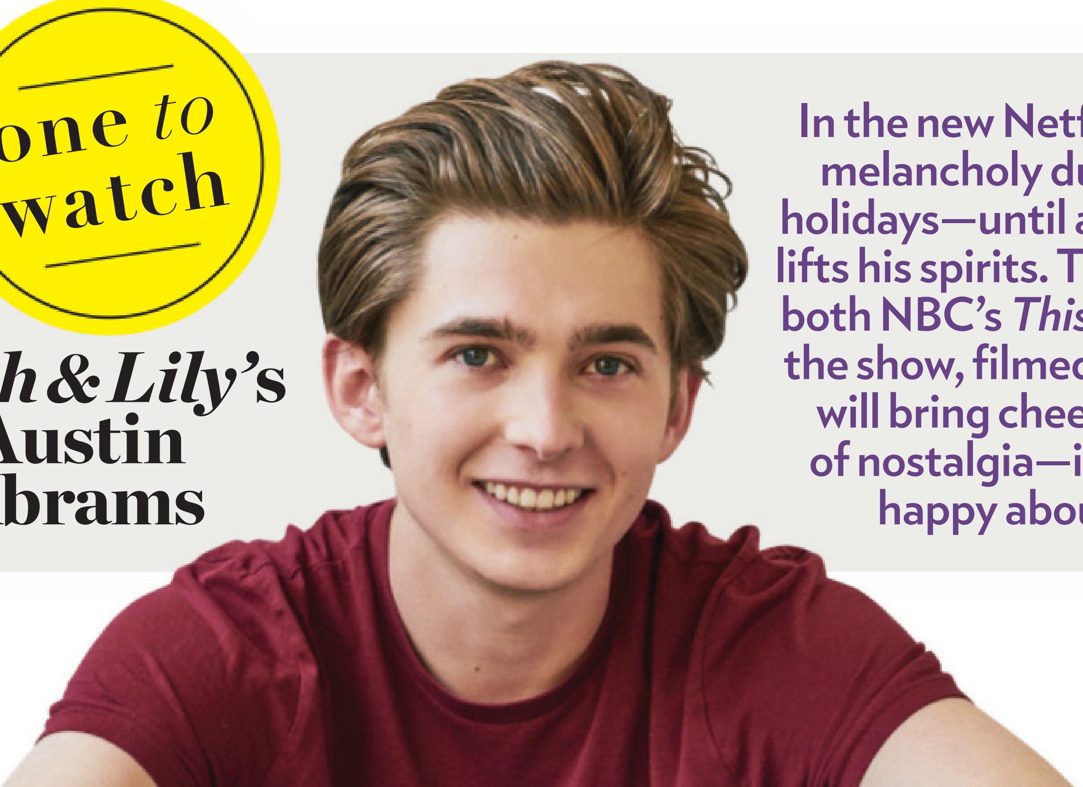
Mills and Whitaker

HULU | I Am Greta

DOCUMENTARY "Once the climate has got your attention, you can't look away," says Greta Thunberg. "Once you understand the magnitude of the problem, you can't erase it." This film is a stirring, touching portrait of the remarkable Swedish teenager who's become the world's best-known campaigner against climate change. *(Launches Nov. 13)*

one to watch

Dash & Lily's Austin Abrams



In the new Netflix series the 24-year-old plays a melancholy dude in no mood to celebrate the holidays—until a quirky optimist (Midori Francis) lifts his spirits. The Florida native, who appears on both NBC's *This Is Us* and HBO's *Euphoria,* hopes the show, filmed in New York City pre-pandemic, will bring cheer to audiences. "There's a sense of nostalgia—it's calming and warm, which I'm happy about." —KAREN MIZOGUCHI

With costar Francis.

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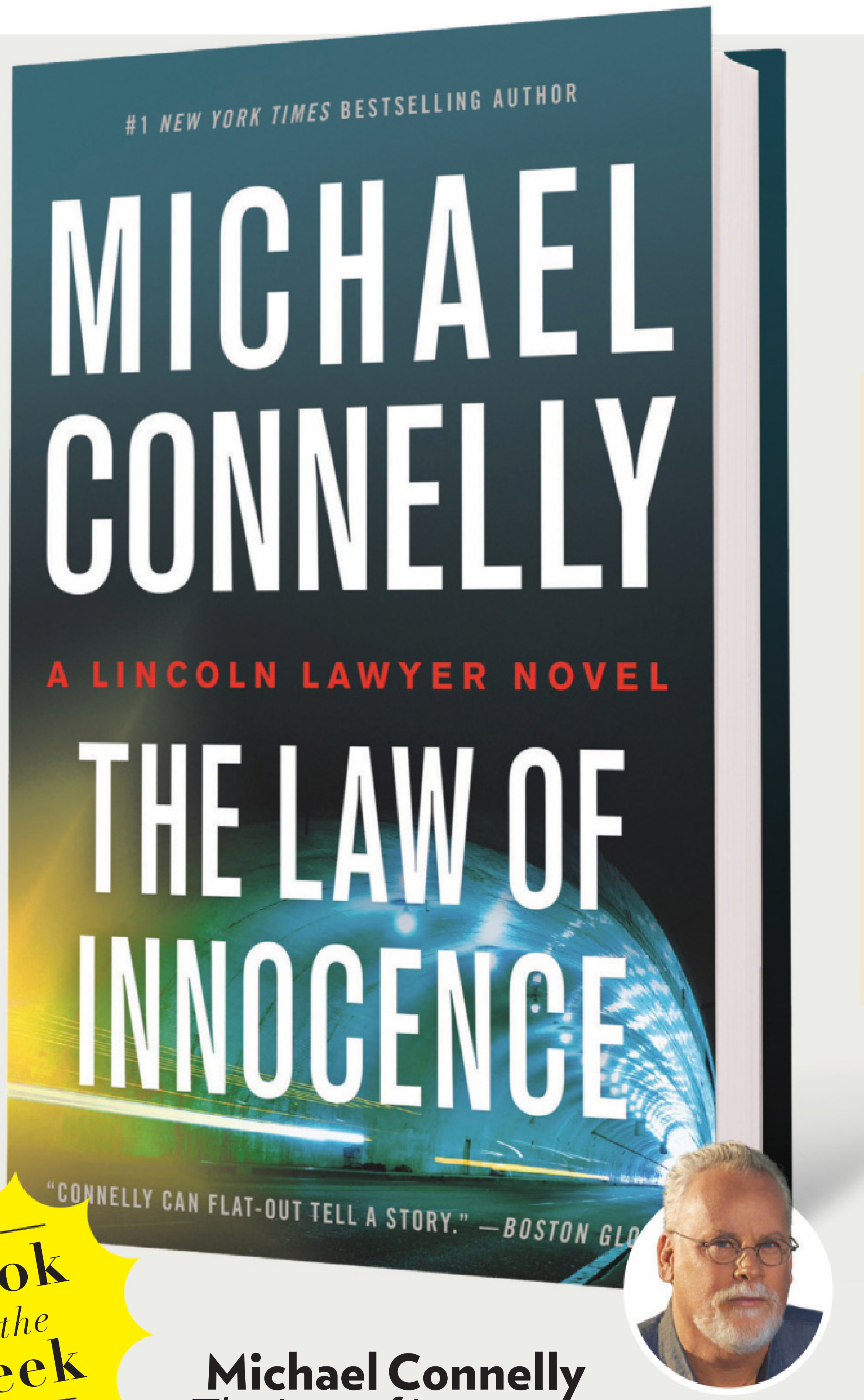
The Best New Books

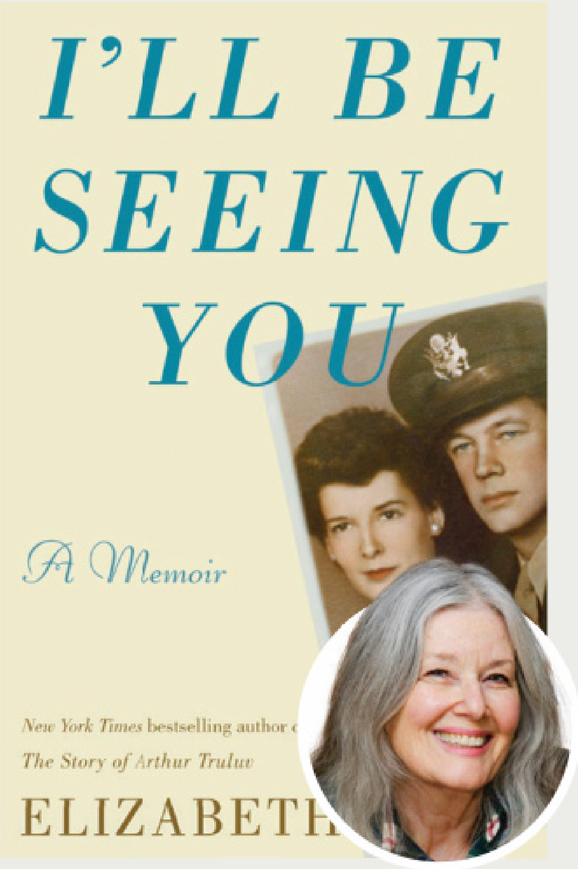
A rollicking legal thriller, a memoir of dementia's ravages and humorous essays from Larry David's angsty daughter Edited by **Kim Hubbard**


#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR
MICHAEL CONNELLY
A LINCOLN LAWYER NOVEL
THE LAW OF INNOCENCE
"CONNELLY CAN FLAT-OUT TELL A STORY." —BOSTON GLO

book *of the* week

Michael Connelly
The Law of Innocence
NOVEL

When the body of a former client is found in his trunk during a traffic stop, Mickey Haller, aka the Lincoln lawyer (named for the car, not the President), hires himself for the defense. This sixth book in Connelly's series has Mickey working not from his sedan but from an L.A. prison, where he's held pending $5 million bail. If you're not already addicted to Mickey, his ex-wives and his brilliant half brother, investigator Harry Bosch, this perfectly constructed legal thriller will get you there.


I'LL BE SEEING YOU
A Memoir
New York Times bestselling author of
The Story of Arthur Truluv
ELIZABETH

Elizabeth Berg
I'll Be Seeing You
MEMOIR

Known for her novels about the small moments and big turning points that define domestic life, Berg now turns to her own parents' 70-year romance and the fault lines that appeared when her father developed Alzheimer's. With courage and honesty, she lights a bright path through the twilight years.

No One Asked For This
essays
Cazzie David

Cazzie David
No One Asked for This
ESSAYS

Cazzie David is a negative, anxious person—or, as she puts it, "I'm pretty sure people sage their homes after I leave." David (daughter of Larry, and, boy, does she have his DNA) will make you bark with laughter in these essays about family, relationships and the perils of social media.

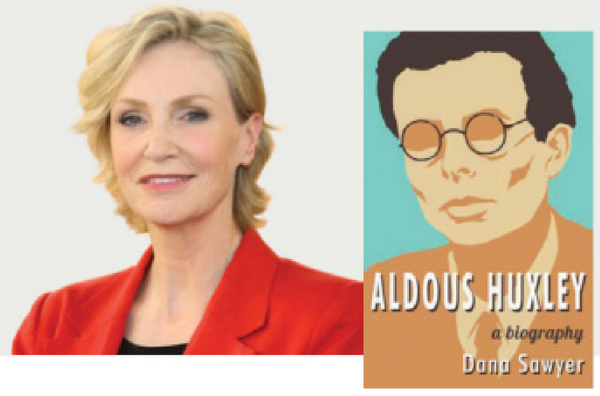
Star Picks: What We're Reading

Alex Winter
Devastation Class
by Glen Zipper and Elaine Mongeon
"This looks to be a new classic YA series, gripping and action-packed. The cliff-hangers matter in this one, so looking forward to the next!"

Jane Lynch
Aldous Huxley: A Biography
by Dana Sawyer
"I prefer nonfiction; I do not like fiction. I'm not drawn to it. I like the real stories—biographical, historical."

Tamron Hall
Please, Baby, Please
by Spike Lee and Tonya Lewis Lee
"I'm surrounded by kids' books! I think this is my favorite to read to [my son]. It's a sweet book, and it was a gift from Harry Belafonte."

DEVASTATION CLASS
GLEN ZIPPER • ELAINE MONGEON


ALDOUS HUXLEY
a biography
Dana Sawyer

please, baby, please
Spike Lee & Tonya Lewis Lee

INSETS, CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: KATIE MCCURDY; BRIAN STUKES/WIREIMAGE; PAUL ARCHULETA/GETTY IMAGES; DAVID CROTTY/PATRICK MCMULLAN/GETTY IMAGES; MARK DELONG; TERESA CRAWFORD

Contributors BOOKS CLAIRE MARTIN, JUDITH NEWMAN, MARION WINIK MUSIC ERIC RENNER BROWN

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A PROBLEM SOLVER

Joe Biden (speaking with C.J. Brown while campaigning in Detroit on Sept. 9) "is a guy who says, 'Let's see how we can come together to fix what's wrong,'" says former Ohio governor John Kasich, a Republican.

AMR ALFIKY/THE NEW YORK TIMES/REDUX

COME T

E TO

A DIVIDED NATION IN THE GRIPS OF A PANDEMIC TURNED OUT IN HISTORIC NUMBERS TO ELECT JOE BIDEN AND KAMALA HARRIS. 'LET'S GIVE EACH OTHER A CHANCE,' BIDEN TOLD THE MILLIONS WHO SOUGHT A SECOND TERM FOR PRESIDENT TRUMP. 'WE ARE NOT ENEMIES. WE ARE AMERICANS'

By **SANDRA SOBIERAJ WESTFALL**

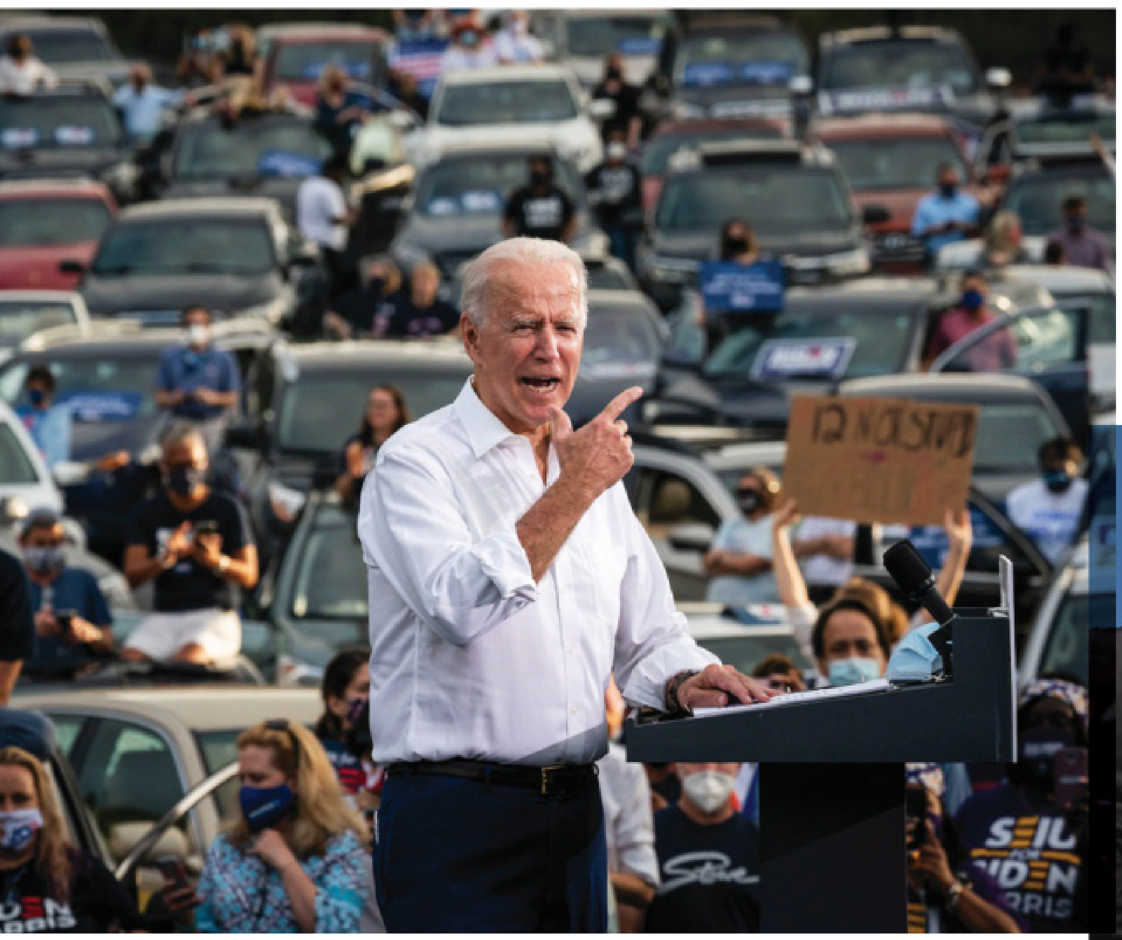
OGETHER

His decades-long quest for the White House was, at last, fulfilled. But as Joe Biden prepared to address the nation on Nov. 7, he thought less of victory than of loss—the common purpose lost in this bitterly divided America, and the losses of his own darkest times.

The lyrics to “On Eagle’s Wings,” a favorite hymn sung at the 2015 funeral of his son Beau—who died of brain cancer at age 46—had kept coming back to the former Vice President over the five days he spent at his Delaware home watching voting returns trickle in as his grandchildren buzzed around him. “After Beau passed, it was difficult for Joe to listen to [that hymn],” says close friend Ted Kaufman. Now, as Biden added its words to his first speech as President-elect—“He will raise you up . . . make you to shine like the sun”—he aimed to lead Americans on the first step to healing writ large. “Joe standing on that stage, reciting that hymn, proves that you can come back from even the worst,” says Kaufman. “When it comes to healing for the country, he knows it’s possible.”

> AMERICA ‘CHOSE HOPE, UNITY, DECENCY, SCIENCE—AND, YES, TRUTH’
> —KAMALA HARRIS

★★★ A CAMPAIGN SEASON ALTERED BY THE PANDEMIC ★★★



REINVENTING THE RALLY
Biden (Oct. 27 in Atlanta) held “drive-in” rallies to keep supporters socially distanced.

NO HANDSHAKES
Barack Obama (left, in Flint, Mich., Oct. 31) gave his former Veep an elbow bump—and a boost with fiery speeches in Miami and Philadelphia.

FAMILY AFFAIRS

Before the big victory party Nov. 7 (left, in Wilmington, Del.), Biden's grandchildren (above) were the first to tell him, with a group hug, that he'd won. "Aunty" Harris (right) celebrated with her grandnieces, 4 and 2, telling the older girl: "You could be President"—or, the girl's second choice, an astronaut.

The election of Joseph Robinette Biden Jr., 77, as the 46th President of the United States—and Kamala Harris, 56, as the first woman and first Black Vice President—had already made possible what was once unthinkable. Decades of diminishing voter turnout gave way to a jaw-dropping record of 148 million Americans who threw off the anxiety and despair that burdened 2020, with its pandemic and political and racial unrest, to make their voices heard.

"What is our mandate?" Biden asked in his Nov. 7 victory speech in a vast Delaware parking lot where supporters honked horns and cheered from their safely distanced cars. "I believe it is this: Americans have called on us to marshal the forces of decency and fairness. To marshal the forces of science and the forces of hope in the great battles of our time." (Another first: the incoming First Lady, Dr. Jill Biden, 69, says she will continue working as a community-college English professor, even after her husband's Jan. 20, 2021, Inauguration.)

President Trump, who received 71 million votes, refused to concede, pressing various legal challenges to Biden's win. But the coalition of Democrats, independents and moderate Republicans who supported Biden—and who gave him 76 million votes, more than any presidential candidate in U.S. history—literally danced in the streets. From San Francisco to Atlanta to the recently christened Black Lives Matter Plaza near the White House, Americans of all ages and colors and orientations sprayed champagne and broke out in song (a chorus of "Dancing Queen" in Manhattan; "Na Na Hey

SAFETY CIRCLES

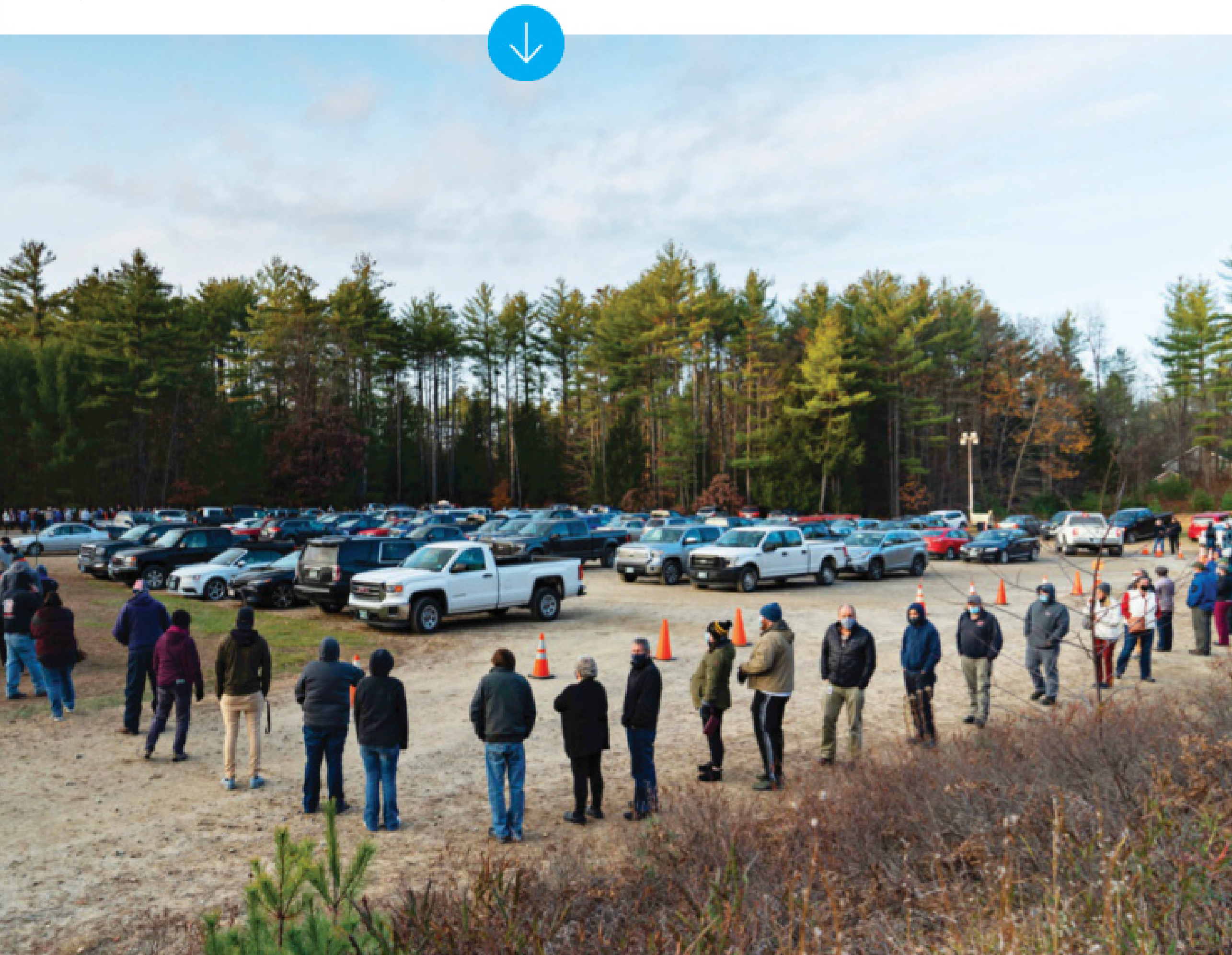
Biden's campaign severely downsized events, such as his Sept. 9 talk with auto workers in Warren, Mich.

FULL COVERAGE

Biden and Harris (at the Aug. 20 finale of the Democratic National Convention in Wilmington, Del.) wear face masks and are regularly tested for the coronavirus.

DEMOCRATIC DUTY

While millions chose mail-in ballots to avoid crowded polling places, millions of others voted in person (Swanzey, N.H., Nov. 3)—and in socially distanced lines.



CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: COURTESY MEENA HARRIS; MEL MUSTO/REDUX; STEFANI REYNOLDS/BLOOMBERG/GETTY IMAGES; AMR ALFIKY/THE NEW YORK TIMES/REDUX; ERIN SCHAFF/THE NEW YORK TIMES/REDUX; DREW ANGERER/GETTY IMAGES; MARK MAKELA/REUTERS

‘I STAND ON THEIR SHOULDERS’

As Kamala Harris, in suffragette white, took the stage on Nov. 7, one handmade sign in the audience said it all: “From daughter of immigrants, to Madam Vice President.” Harris, who brings to the White House the multicultural roots of her Indian mother and Jamaican father—plus, with her Jewish husband, Doug Emhoff, and his two children, an interracial family—credited her groundbreaking rise to generations of women “who paved the way.” And she paid tribute to her late mother, the research scientist Shyamala Gopalan Harris. “When she came here from India at the age of 19, maybe she didn’t quite imagine this moment,” Harris said. “But she believed so deeply in an America where a moment like this is possible.”

Oprah Winfrey, whose “OWN Your Vote” initiative (along with work by Harris’s Black sorority sisters, below, former Georgia state legislator Stacey Abrams and others) helped turn out Black women voters in historic numbers, confessed to tears through Harris’s victory speech. “I was thinking, ‘I wish Maya [Angelou] were alive to see it.’ But maybe she was working it on the other side,” Winfrey tells *People*. “There’s no way to measure what the election of Kamala Harris means for all women, all colors, everywhere.”

Harris and Emhoff, a 56-year-old lawyer soon to take on the awkward title of America’s first Second Gentleman, were out for a walk—a sunshiny break from five tense days of watching vote tabulations mount on cable news—when the race was called for her and Biden. Emhoff wrapped his wife of six years in a hug; then she (above, inset) placed an exuberant call to the President-elect: “We did it, Joe!”

SHARING THE STAGE
(From left) Emhoff, Harris, Biden and Jill Biden onstage Nov. 7.

Hey Kiss Him Goodbye” in Washington, D.C.).

Meme-makers went into overdrive celebrating the way Harris, in her trademark Converse sneakers, shattered the glass ceiling to the Vice Presidency. “Make sure to wear shoes, ladies. There’s glass everywhere,” read a viral mom-styled slogan. The crowd in Washington carried handmade posters like “We Spread Love, Not Hate” and “YES WE KAM!” Alicia Thames of Clarksville, Md., was there with her daughters to witness history. “I feel like I’m coming out of an emotionally abusive relationship,” said Thames, a government contractor who lost a 22-year-old son to gun violence in 2015. “Now it’s like, ‘Whew! We’re free! We can breathe’—and I now have hope.”

From overseas, U.S. allies sent Biden congratulations that seemed to breathe a sigh of relief. “Joe Biden brings the experience of decades in domestic and foreign policy with him,” said German chancellor Angela Merkel. In Paris, where church bells tolled through the city on Nov. 7, Mayor Anne Hidalgo said simply, “Welcome back America!”

●●●

The stuttering Catholic-school boy from Scranton, Pa., who grew up to be the nation’s folksy “Uncle Joe”—first in his 36 years as U.S. senator for Delaware, then in two terms as Barack Obama’s loyal No. 2—was supposed to be done with the White House. With two failed presidential campaigns, in 1988 and 2008, already behind him, Biden declined to compete for the 2016 Democratic presidential nomination, questioning whether he and his grieving family had the “emotional fuel” for a campaign just months after Beau’s death (see page 39). The window on his shot at the Presidency was closed, Biden said then.

But all that changed in August 2017 when white supremacists carrying tiki torches held a rally in Charlottesville, Va., that ended in a self-professed neo-Nazi’s killing counterdemonstrator Heather Heyer, 32. Biden was stunned by Trump’s response. “He said there were fine people on both

COUNTERCLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM LEFT: @MARIOEUGENEPAGE & MAISHA LAND; EVAN VUCCI/AP/SHUTTERSTOCK; CALLAGHAN O’HARE/REUTERS; CASEY KELBAUGH/REDUX; ANDREW HARNIK/REUTERS; TASOS KATOPODIS/GETTY IMAGES

DEMOCRACY—TESTED BUT NOT BESTED

EXIT
General Election 2020
Machine #: 2
Machine ID: G (Gaston)
ADELPHIA CITY MISSIONERS

A CLOSE COUNT
Officials had warned it would take days to count mail-in ballots (as in Philadelphia, shown). States where Trump once led the tally eventually shifted to Biden.

DEFIANT IN DEFEAT
An aide turned adviser says Trump (on Election Night) was at first resigned to his loss but grew fiery about pressing the evidence-free case for fraud. "It really hurts to lose," the adviser says.

WHAT'S NEXT FOR MAGA?
"Nobody pretends the Trump Organization will go back to what it was," one insider says. "Politics is now in their bloodstream." (Here, a supporter in Texas on Nov. 7.)

sides. And I thought—God," Biden told CNN. He felt called then to challenge Trump's reelection despite the dozen or more Democrats already lining up to do the same and the fact that Biden would be 78 by Inauguration Day 2021, making him the oldest President in U.S. history. Explains Kaufman, who now heads up Biden's transition team: "He took what he calls the look-in-the-mirror test. He looks in the mirror and asks, 'How am I going to feel about myself if, just because this problem is difficult, I don't take it on?'"

Biden was at first no shoo-in for the Democratic nomination. He placed fourth in the Iowa caucuses before an even more embarrassing fifth-place finish in the New Hampshire primary.

> 'I UNDERSTAND YOUR DISAPPOINTMENT. I'VE LOST A COUPLE OF ELECTIONS MYSELF'
> —JOE BIDEN, TO TRUMP VOTERS

A warm endorsement from South Carolina's Rep. Jim Clyburn, the highest-ranking Black member of Congress, put Biden on the winning track. Then COVID-19 arrived, cutting a deadly swath across the country and sending the economy careening. One by one, Biden's rivals for the Democratic nomination lined up behind his experienced and steady hand—the man, perhaps, for this troubling moment. "Biden has a career of listening to Republicans and working with them," says presidential historian Douglas Brinkley. Valerie Biden remembers how her brother, when he first went to Congress at age 30, one of the youngest U.S. senators, was "ridiculed for working across the aisle. Like, 'How could you talk to Republicans?' But my brother is a realist." Brinkley agrees: "He is probably the best person in public life to tap into that American can-do-ism and restore faith in our democracy."

• • •

As Biden and Harris met on Nov. 9 with their newly formed Coronavirus Advisory Council via videoconference, that day's data showed the scope of the task ahead: The U.S. had logged its 10 millionth case of COVID-19 infection—and counting—with the virus killing more than 1,100 Americans each

FIRST-TIME VOTERS SPEAK

VOTE HERE
★★★★★★
VOTE AQU

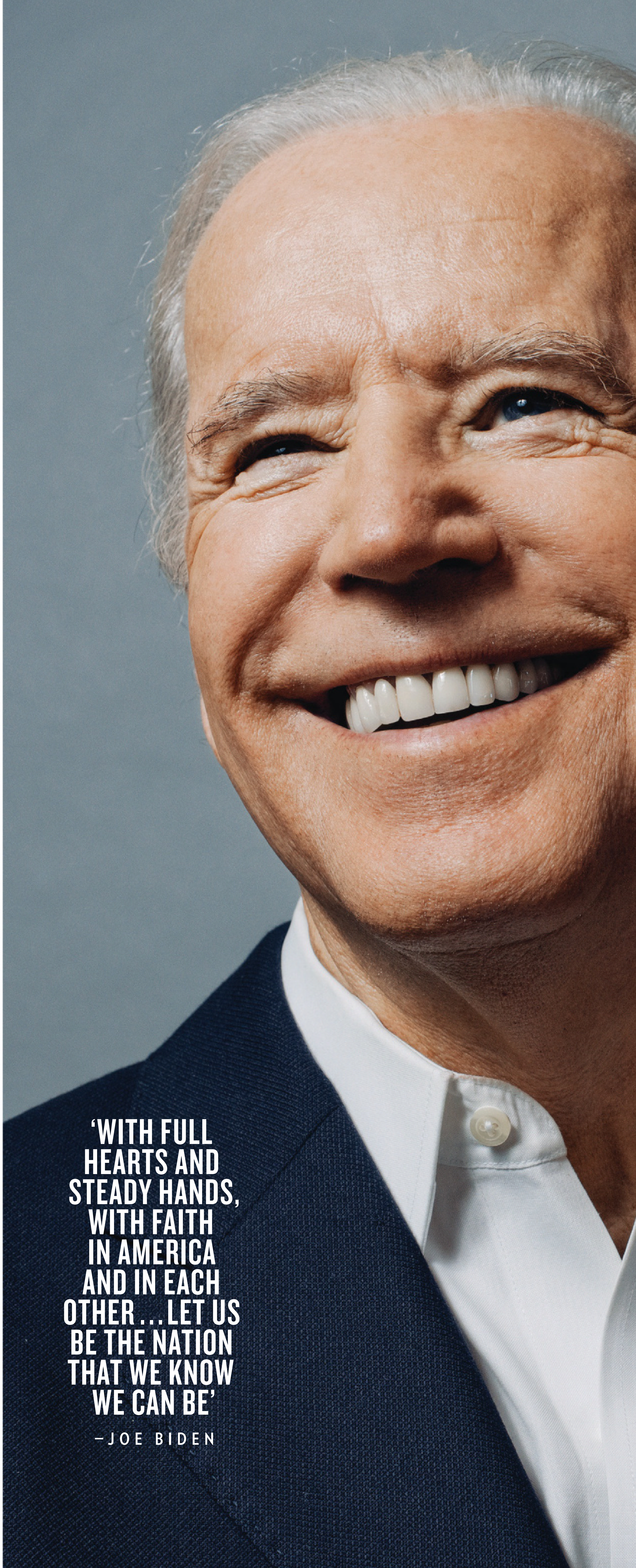
ANDREW COLT
Hutto, Texas
"I've never cared about politics before this Presidency. There are a lot of issues at stake that I'm passionate about.... People in my age group can have a huge influence."

AIYANAH PEEPLES
Hudson, Ohio
"I turned 18 this year, so this is my first opportunity. I think it's both a privilege and a responsibility... to contribute to changing things about how this country is shaped."

LUTHER RAHAMAN
Reading, Pa.
"I love [Donald Trump]. He is a man of action. I was born in Bangladesh but am an American now, so I have to support someone who loves America. He has done everything for... our country."

OFFICIAL
BALLOT
DROP BOX
I VOTED

KENNYA RIVERA
Los Angeles
"I'm more of a person about morals. I know there are economic and health issues, but I need to have someone representing me who is a good person."



'WITH FULL HEARTS AND STEADY HANDS, WITH FAITH IN AMERICA AND IN EACH OTHER... LET US BE THE NATION THAT WE KNOW WE CAN BE'

—JOE BIDEN

CLOCKWISE FROM BOTTOM LEFT: EMMA MCINTYRE/GETTY IMAGES; ANDREW H WALKER/SHUTTERSTOCK; JOEY ARTINO; SUZANNE CORDEIRO/SHUTTERSTOCK; RYAN PFLUGER/AUGUST; KHALID MOHAMMED/REUTERS; SUZANNE CORDEIRO/SHUTTERSTOCK

A PROMISE TO HIS SON

In the fall of 2014, cancer was overtaking Beau, a former Delaware attorney general and Iraq War Army veteran (above, in 2009 near Baghdad). But he insisted that his father not let a lifetime of public service be derailed by the coming death with which Beau had already made peace. In his 2017 memoir Joe Biden recalled his son's plea: "You've got to promise me, Dad, that no matter what happens, you're going to be all right." Today Biden wears Beau's rosary on his wrist "as a reminder of what he was expecting of me."

day. At the same time, the political crisis raged unabated as Trump, his attorneys and his supporters insisted, without evidence, that the election had been "rigged."

Through it all, Biden leans on what he's learned about healing—not just from Beau's death, but from the December day in 1972 when his wife, Neilia, and baby daughter Naomi were killed in a car crash that landed his young boys Beau and Hunter in the hospital. "Having lived through almost inconceivable loss and failure [in his earlier presidential campaigns], Joe Biden knows humility and resilience," says historian Doris Kearns Goodwin, who sees in the President-elect now a bit of Teddy Roosevelt's gift for helping people from all corners "feel common American citizenship" and FDR's ability during World War II to rally Americans to "accept brutal reality." Says Valerie Biden: "Beau has his arm around my brother, and for people who are struggling, there's comfort in knowing that someone else gets it. Because people don't care what you know until they know that you care." In the campaign's closing weeks, Biden laid out on the phone to Oprah Winfrey a simple strategy for the country: "He said, 'It's every act of kindness, anytime you do something that says, I see you as another human being,'" Winfrey says. "'We're going to do this one person at a time.'"

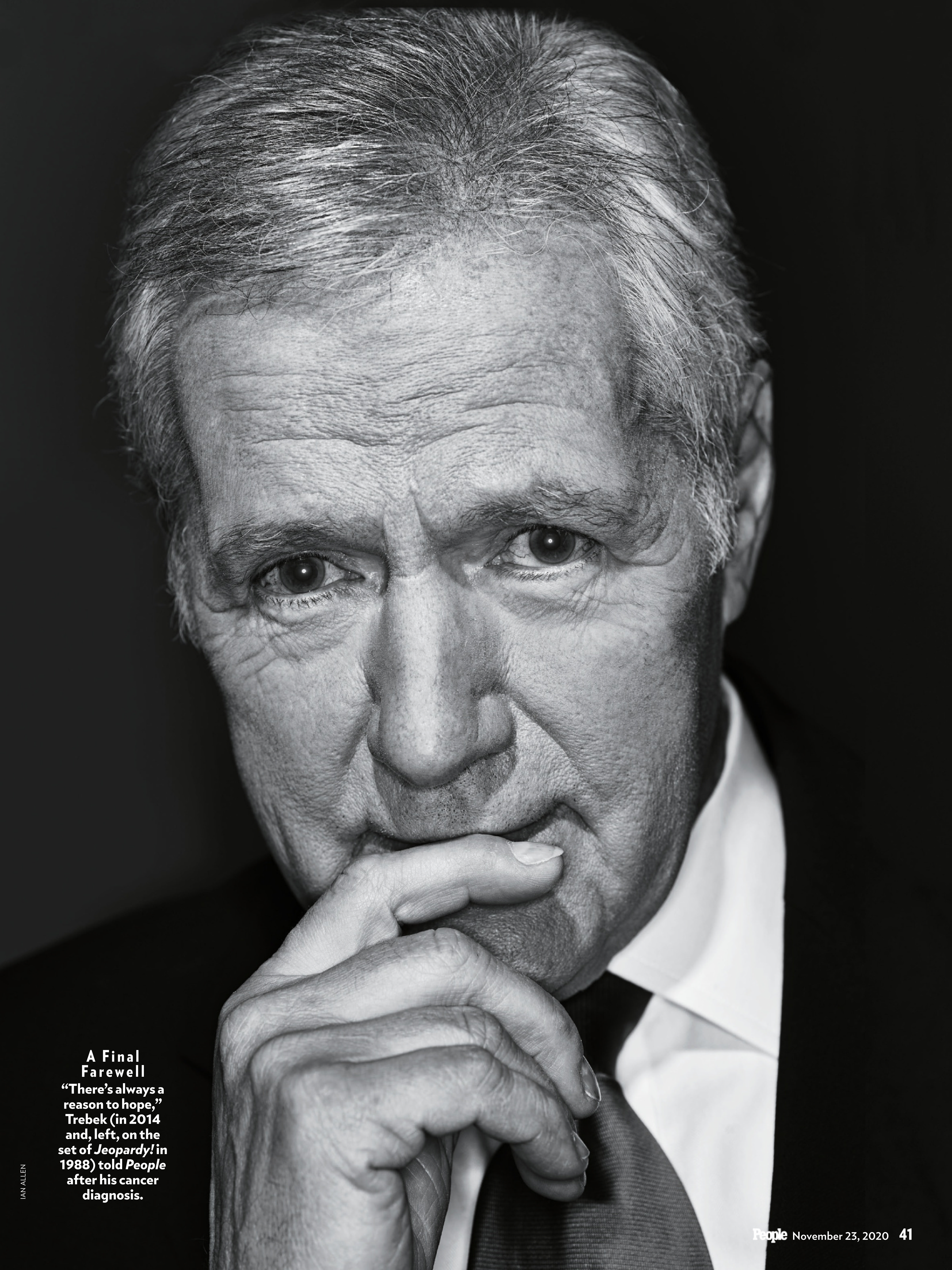
With reporting by **JOEY ARTINO, ADAM CARLSON, SUZANNE CORDIERO, AMY ESKIND, MARY GREEN, DIANE HERBST, SEAN NEUMANN** *and* **ANDREW H. WALKER**

UNCONTAINED JOY
Biden supporters, most wearing masks, celebrated outside the Texas state capitol in Austin Nov. 7.

What Is... A Life Well-Lived

INSIDE THE EXTRAORDINARY CAREER AND FINAL DAYS OF THE BELOVED *JEOPARDY!* HOST, A ROMANTIC AND AN OPTIMIST WHO BELIEVED KINDNESS SHOULD ALWAYS PREVAIL *By* **GILLIAN TELLING**

COURTESY JEOPARDY PRODUCTIONS INC.



A Final Farewell
"There's always a reason to hope," Trebek (in 2014 and, left, on the set of *Jeopardy!* in 1988) told *People* after his cancer diagnosis.

IAN ALLEN

‘You don’t usually hear how you’ve affected people until you’re gone. I got to hear it while I was alive’

30-Year Love Story
Before his cancer diagnosis, Trebek told *People* he wished he’d met his wife, Jean, sooner: “We could have had a longer life together.”

Four months ago, while Alex Trebek was quarantining at home with his family in Los Angeles, he was itching to get back to work on the set of *Jeopardy!* “My job gave me quality of life,” he told *People* in July. “It established a rhythm and order of things. I miss it very much.” Still, he was enjoying the extra time at home with Jean, 56, his loving wife of 30 years, and his children Matthew, 29, Emily, 27, and Nicky, 54. He’d also just released his first memoir, *And the Answer Is… Reflections on My Life*. But he was a little bored. Because he’d been undergoing various treatments for stage 4 pancreatic cancer, which he was diagnosed with in March 2019, he was so immunocompromised he couldn’t even leave the house. So he did what many others did: He tidied up.

“I’ve just been doing little projects around the house, getting rid of stuff,” he said. “I have accumulated so much over the past four decades, it’s difficult to decide what’s got to go. My wife, Jeannie, has a great theory. She says if you haven’t used it in a year, it’s got to go. Well, I have things I haven’t used in 40 years!”

One thing he wasn’t wasting his time doing? Bemoaning his fate. Trebek, who turned 80 on July 22, was well-aware that the average patient with his aggressive form of cancer lives just one year after diagnosis. While some days were so difficult that he felt ready to die, he did his best to stay strong for his “soulmate,” Jean. “She’s kept me alive,” he explained. “If it weren’t for Jean, I’d have put myself out of this a long time ago.”

When *Jeopardy!* resumed taping at the end of July, Trebek dived right back into his hosting duties. On Oct. 29 he hosted the show for his final time—an episode that will air on Dec. 25. Eight days later he died peacefully at home, surrounded by a small gathering of friends and his family. “He was coherent,” *Jeopardy!* producer Mike Richards told *Today* of Trebek’s final day. “He wasn’t in pain.”

He also wasn’t scared. “Mortality doesn’t worry me,” he told *People* in May 2019, shortly after his diagnosis. “My dad died at 72, and my mom lived to be 95. So if I saw it off in the middle, that would be good.” Trebek was also content with how he’d lived his life, noting that he had “not one” regret. “Is there any downside to how my life, my career has gone?” he asked. “I don’t think so.”

The Trebeks

Wedding Laughs

When the minister asked if he'd take Jean as his wife at their 1990 wedding, Trebek replied, "The answer is… Yes."

A Father's Joy

Trebek took great pride in the accomplishments of his children (in 2011, from left): Matthew, a restaurateur; Nicky, a *Jeopardy!* production coordinator; and Emily, who works in real estate.

• • •

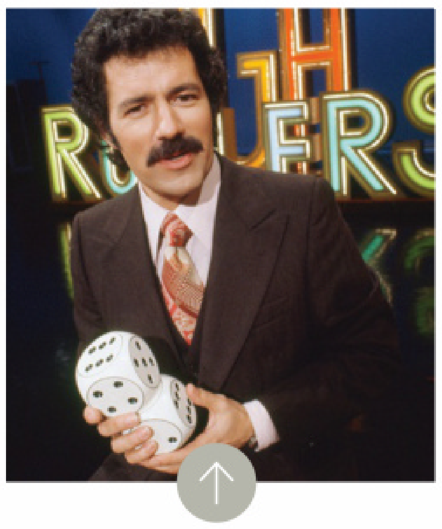
The outpouring of grief from fans around the world following his death on Nov. 8 was swift and heartfelt. "Alex wasn't just the best ever at what he did. He was also a lovely and deeply decent man, and I'm grateful for every minute I got to spend with him," said his friend *Jeopardy!* champion Ken Jennings, 46. Over the years many had stories about the role Trebek had played in their lives. On the Nov. 5 episode, winner Burt Thakur, an immigrant from India, got choked up as he told Trebek, "I learned English because of you. My grandfather, who raised me… I used to sit on his lap and watch you every day. It's a pretty special moment for me, man." Tony Vinciquerra, the CEO and chairman of Sony Pictures, which produces *Jeopardy!*, said, "For 37 amazing years Alex was that comforting voice, that moment of escape and entertainment at the end of a long, hard day for millions of people around the world."

> 'Jeannie is wonderful. There are mates—and then there are soulmates'

Trebek never got tired of hearing what *Jeopardy!* meant to his fans or what he meant to their parents and families. "I get a lot of women in their 70s, 80s, 90s who tell me, 'You're hot!'" he told *People* with a laugh in 2019. "But I'm not like George Clooney. I'm not an A-list celebrity. I'm considered family, because you're home every night, and you get used to seeing me there." When he'd visit his son Matthew, who owns a restaurant in Harlem, he'd take the subway and smile and wave at those who recognized him. "When I walk around Manhattan, policemen and firefighters will say 'Hey, Alex!' and just wave. Like you're one of their pals. That's a nice kind of fame to have. It's comforting."

Born in Ontario, Canada, in 1940, Trebek grew up the son of a Ukrainian immigrant father, who worked as a chef at a hotel, and a French-Canadian mother. After studying philosophy at

An Illustrious 47-Year Career



Early Days

In the mid-1970s Trebek hosted the NBC game show *High Rollers,* where contestants would compete to win cash and prizes by rolling giant dice.

Jeopardy! Begins

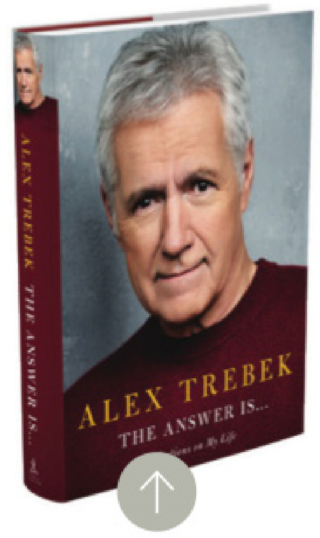
When the quiz show's original host, Art Fleming, didn't return for the '80s revival, Trebek taped an audition for creator Merv Griffin. He got the gig, began hosting in 1984 and fronted over 8,200 episodes.

Emmy King

Jeopardy! is America's most award-winning game show, with 39 Emmy wins; Trebek himself won seven for Outstanding Game Show Host.

The GOATs

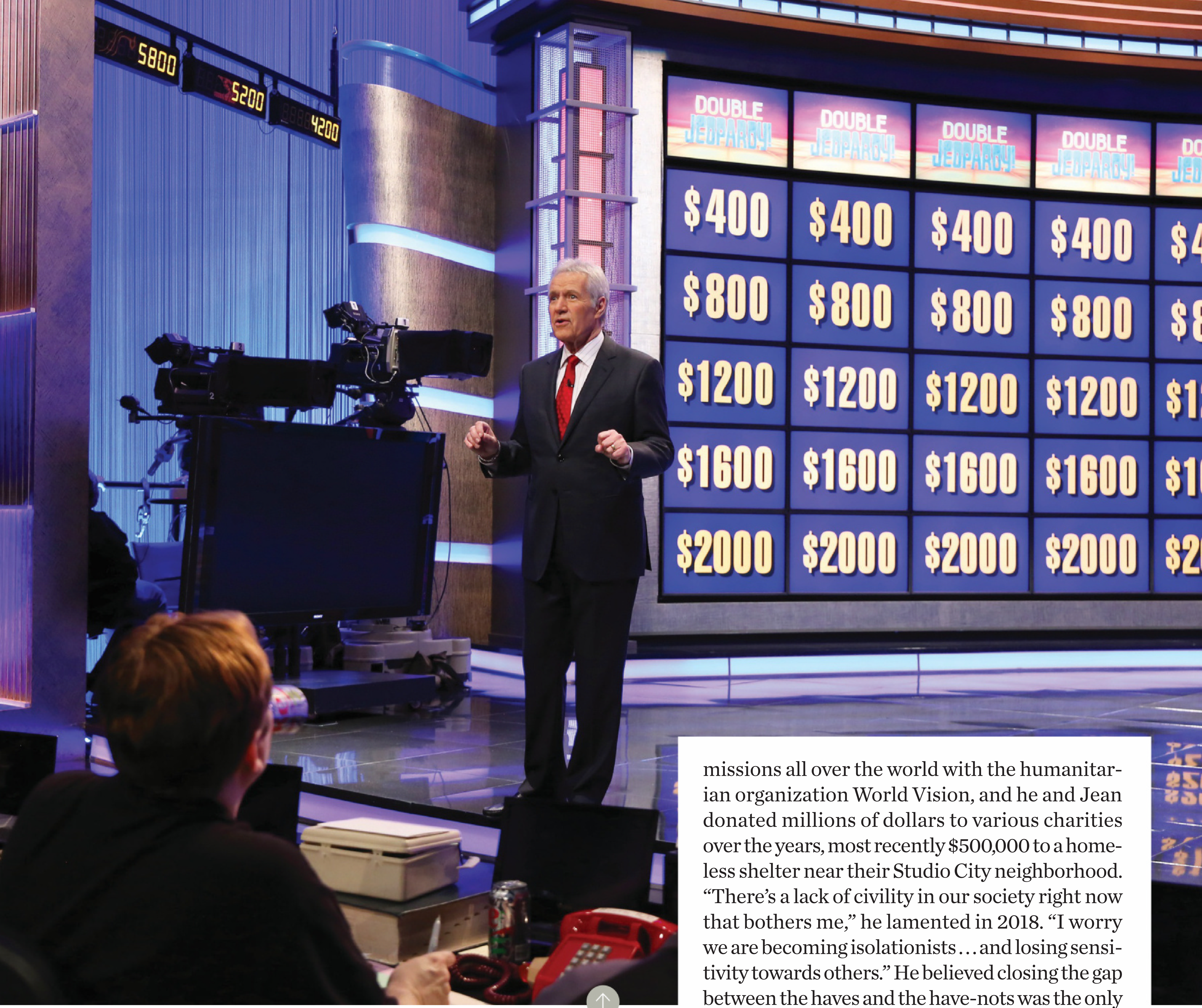
In January the three highest-winning *Jeopardy!* contestants—(from left) Ken Jennings, Brad Rutter and James Holzhauer—competed to see who was the "Greatest of All Time." Jennings took home the $1 million prize.



Story of His Life

In July Trebek released his memoir, covering his childhood in Canada, his long career, and facing life and love after his cancer diagnosis.

COUNTERCLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: RAMONA ROSALES; RON TOM/NBCU/GETTY IMAGES; COURTESY JEOPARDY PRODUCTIONS INC.; GREGG DEGUIRE/GETTY IMAGES; ABC/ERIC MCCANDLESS; DAVID BECKER/GETTY IMAGES; COURTESY SIMON & SCHUSTER



the University of Ottawa, he landed a job at the Canadian Broadcasting Company, hosting an *American Bandstand*-like music show. When he moved to Los Angeles in 1973, he hosted a variety of game shows before eventually becoming the face of *Jeopardy!* in 1984. "He took his job very seriously," longtime *Jeopardy!* producer Harry Friedman told *People,* pointing out that the host would often come in early on taping days to read over every question thoroughly. Indeed, Trebek wanted everyone on the show to do well. "So many contestants would say, 'I was worried I'd look like a fool,' and I'd tell them, 'You didn't,'" Trebek said, adding, "But life is overcoming your fears, isn't it?" Producer Friedman noted, "Alex always treated the staff with respect, his role with respect, and he has tremendous respect for the viewing audience."

Respect and decency were important to Trebek. Beginning in the early '80s, he went on relief missions all over the world with the humanitarian organization World Vision, and he and Jean donated millions of dollars to various charities over the years, most recently $500,000 to a homeless shelter near their Studio City neighborhood. "There's a lack of civility in our society right now that bothers me," he lamented in 2018. "I worry we are becoming isolationists . . . and losing sensitivity towards others." He believed closing the gap between the haves and the have-nots was the only way to live. "I wish we could try to resolve our divisions by extending our hands to our neighbors in help, just saying, 'Hey, you're having a rough time. What can I do to assist you?' That would go a long way," he said in July. He added, "You never have to say sorry after doing a positive deed for someone."

In his final few months Trebek spent as much time as he could sitting on a swing in his backyard, appreciating the beauty of the life he'd built. He took comfort in being in the presence of Jean, whom he'd met in 1988 and married in 1990. "With Jean it just happened," he wrote in his memoir of being instantly smitten with the tall brunette, not long after getting divorced from his first wife, Elaine Callei, whose daughter Nicky he'd adopted. "I wasn't looking for love, but I realized at a gut level that here was someone who was going to complete me as a human being." After his cancer diagnosis, Trebek worried how it would affect Jean. "I feel bad for caregivers, because they have to deal with

↑

Host of Possibilities

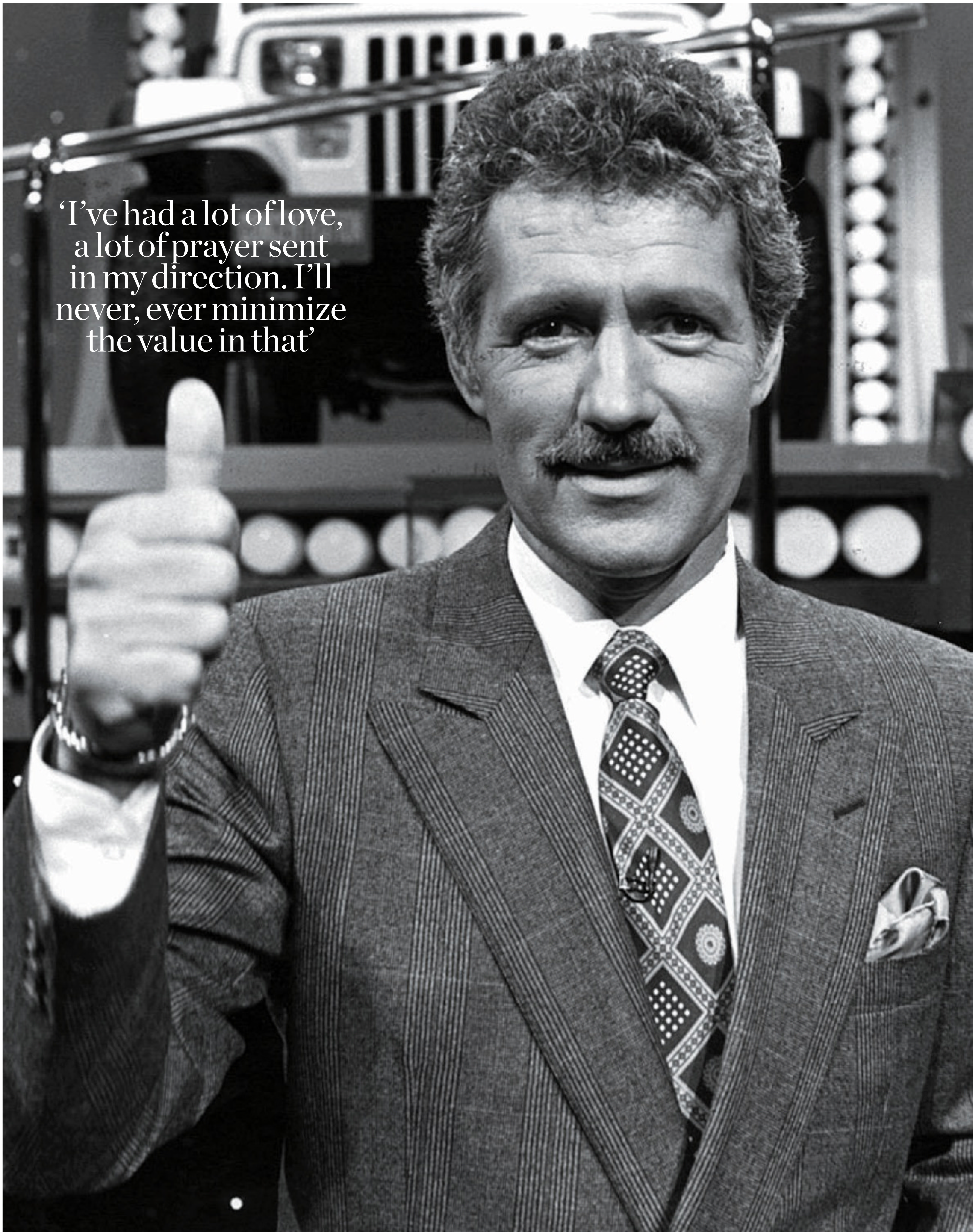
One of Trebek's takeaways from working at the game show for so long? "Women are as smart if not smarter than men," he told *People*.

'It's a cliché, but live every day like it's your last. Get the most out of life'

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: CAROL KAELSON/JEOPARDY PRODUCTIONS INC.; DAVID LIVINGSTON/GETTY IMAGES; COURTESY JEOPARDY PRODUCTIONS INC.; SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS/AP

their loved ones suffering, and there's not always a lot they can do except make you feel more comfortable," he said. "She has to be strong and try not to let me be downhearted and be positive even though we knew this was serious." Jean, who runs a website that promotes kind living called insidewink.com, said she did her best to stay happy for them both. "I want to uplift him," she told SurvivorNet last year. "When I keep my own self buoyed and enjoying my life, I can actually share that with him. He can look at me and have a sense of 'Life is beautiful.' "

That beauty is something Trebek appreciated even before he got sick. Not a day went by that he wasn't grateful for a job he loved, a wife and family he adored. In his memoir he wrote about his hopes for his legacy. "I'd like to be remembered first of all as a good and loving husband and father, and also as a decent man who did his best to help people perform at their best," he wrote. "I'll be perfectly content if that's how my story ends: sitting on the swing with the woman I love, my soulmate . . . wonderful children nearby." ●



'I've had a lot of love, a lot of prayer sent in my direction. I'll never, ever minimize the value in that'

Honoring Alex

Pat Sajak and Vanna White

Because *Jeopardy!* and *Wheel of Fortune* shoot in studios right next to each other, the three faces of the long-running game shows felt a kinship. "It was an honor for me to be a part of [Trebek's] professional family for nearly 40 years," Sajak said. "His strength and courage and grace during his recent health struggles inspired countless others. Alex was truly one of a kind." White echoed the sentiment. "I'm devastated to lose my longtime friend," she said. "There will never be another Alex Trebek, and he will truly be missed."

Justin Trudeau

Trebek was endlessly proud of his Canadian heritage. The nation's prime minister, Justin Trudeau, noted, "Alex never hesitated to promote Canada on prime-time TV and to take the opportunity to stump even the brightest contestants with questions about Canadian culture, history and geography." Trudeau added, "On behalf of all Canadians, Sophie and I offer our deepest condolences to Alex's family, friends, and his many, many fans."

KYLIE MINOGUE

A Pop Queen's Private World

THE AUSTRALIAN POP STAR TALKS ABOUT HER THREE DECADES OF FAME, HER NEW LOVE & FINDING JOY IN A TIME OF DARKNESS

By **JEFF NELSON**

18+

WHAT IS
AVAXHOME?

AVAXHOME -

the biggest Internet portal, providing you various content: brand new books, trending movies, fresh magazines, hot games, recent software, latest music releases.

Unlimited satisfaction one low price
Cheap constant access to piping hot media
Protect your downloadings from Big brother
Safer, than torrent-trackers

18 years of seamless operation and our users' satisfaction

All languages
Brand new content
One site

AVXLIVE.ICU

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We have everything for all of your needs. Just open https://avxlive.icu

Kylie Minogue misses Australia. Since the coronavirus crisis began earlier this year, the Melbourne-born pop star has been quarantining in London, and like many around the world, she's not sure when she'll see her loved ones next. "Australia is far, but it's never felt further away than it does right now," says Minogue, 52, over a Zoom call. "I look forward to the time that I can get home and see my family."

With the world on hold and nowhere to go, the Grammy winner—who has sold more than 80 million records, with hits like "Can't Get You Out of My Head"—got to work on a new album, which she recorded almost entirely at home. On *Disco,* Minogue, like a mirror ball, finds light in a year of darkness. "Talking about disco now and what's happening in the world, there really does seem to be a parallel, because of course disco came from struggle and from people needing to find a place for inclusion and diversity and to be accepted and to let those emotions out," she says of the record. "So much has happened this year. It really did help me, and now I hope it can provide a moment of escapism for other people."

Here, the singer opens up about life with her boyfriend, *British GQ* creative director Paul Solomons, her three decades of stardom and how surviving breast cancer changed her forever.

Happy in Love
Minogue says her beau—*British GQ's* creative director, Paul Solomons, 46, whom she's dated since 2018—helped her find a "different perspective" for her new album.

'It was an emotional roller coaster'

—ON RECORDING IN A PANDEMIC

What inspired you to double down on disco on your new album?
I knew it was heading to the dance floor, and I knew I was inspired by the feeling that Studio 54 gives us. For many of us of a certain age, there's all of that nostalgia, and it just so happens it's having a moment right now with the younger generation as well.

There are some sweet love songs on the album—you sound so happy! What makes your relationship with Paul work?
In a nutshell, he's a great guy. He's so caring and supportive. When it comes to work, I go in deep and I'm obsessive. He's been very supportive through that. He has a wicked sense of humor, he has his own life and his own career going on. So we meet in the middle somewhere. And yeah, it's just . . . it's *good*—and there's a lot to be said for that.

You recorded most of the songs during the pandemic. What was your work-from-home situation like?
Busy. It involved learning skills that I previously just did not have. I had to engage my brain in different ways and basically learn to record my own vocals, and I also felt like I was spinning plates producing the album, which I wouldn't normally do to this degree. And then, of course, because it's virtual, you're all in each other's houses so [there are] interruptions that you wouldn't normally have when a few of you are in the studio together. Whereas now, for this album [people would say], "Oh, I have to put my toddler down for their nap" or "That's the doorbell" or "I've got to make lunch." Just real-life stuff happening in the background. It ended up feeling almost normal.

Aside from creating an album, how have you spent your time in quarantine?
I watched my fair share of TV. *Tiger King* was epic. Any of those streaming services, take my money—entertain us, distract us, take us away. I tried my hand at some gardening, not that I have much of a garden, but just the potted plants and some herbs and tomatoes. I was doing pretty good until the weather changed; like now I think I'm a fair-weather gardener. If the weather's nice, I'm quite happy to putter outside. But now it's pretty wet out there, so I might give that up for a while. I didn't do any of the things that were on my mental list: sorting out cupboards and doing a clear-out. Just stuff that you think "I never have time" to do—I managed to not achieve any of that!

You've had massive success in your career. What do you know now that you wish you'd known when you were younger?
I would like to tell my younger self, "Don't sweat the small stuff, enjoy the ride, and keep a diary!"

FROM LEFT: DENYS DIONYSIOS/DARENOTE LTD.; DAVE BENETT/GETTY IMAGES

before she was famous

1979

1986

Minogue started her career on Australian soap operas, first appearing in a minor part on *The Sullivans* (above) at age 11, then snagging a lead role on *Neighbours* (right) in 1986. She scored a recording contract in 1987 and left the show a year later to focus on singing.

I think that would have been very helpful. I did attempt a couple of times; it just seemed terrible so I gave up, but it would have been good to put pen to paper. I don't think we really knew back then that life is a series of challenges and you aim to have as many good times as possible. At this stage in my life I really feel like life is just made of moments, and the more moments that can be good, try to acknowledge that that was a good moment. Because it's all coming at you, good and bad.

> 'I love music. I'm fully unqualified to do anything else'

You were diagnosed with breast cancer in 2005 and underwent a lumpectomy and chemo. That must have been one of the biggest challenges of your life.

Oh, absolutely. It's like the earth had kind of slipped off its axis. You see everything differently. I remember having had my diagnosis, but the world didn't know. I was with my brother and my boyfriend at the time—we were all in a daze and went to a cafe. The server at the cafe was like, "Hey, how are you today?" We just kind of robotically said, "Good, thanks," and in that moment I just thought: You really don't know what anyone is going through. I thought that same person by tomorrow is going to see the news and say, "Oh my God, she was here yesterday, and we didn't know." It's a huge change, and it is before and after. Now with what's happening in the world, there's a lot of people talking about a new normal, but I think after cancer or any other big, life-changing incident or illness, you have to adapt.

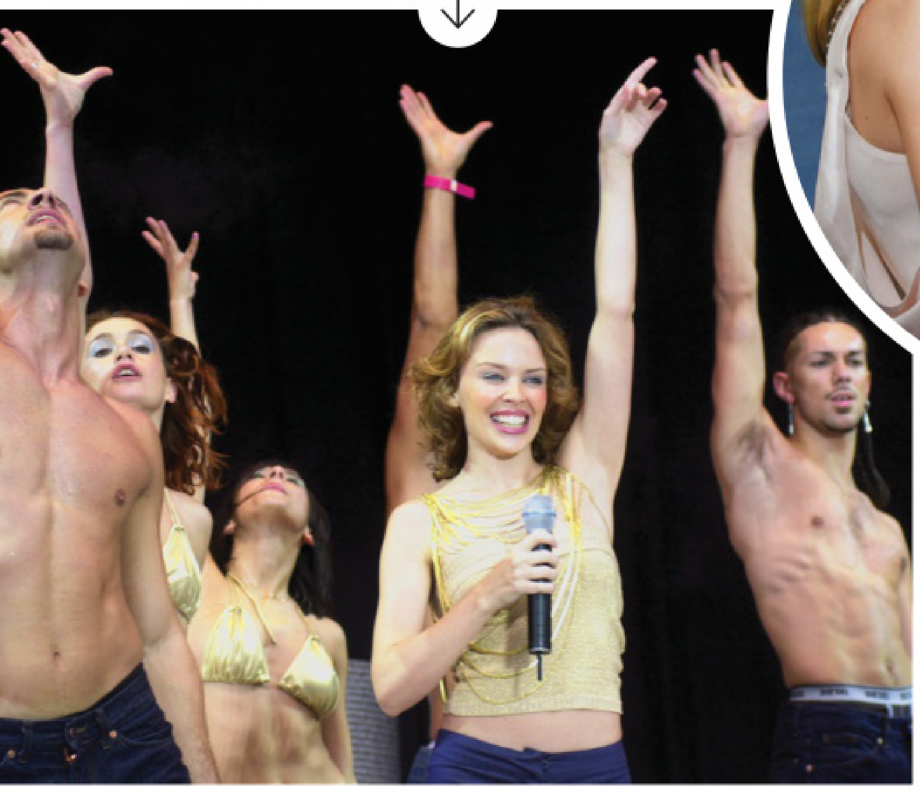
Before you started singing, you got your start as a child actor. Child stardom can take a toll, but you made it out unscathed.

I guess that's partly down to having a very grounded and loving and thoughtful family and home environment. Also, I wasn't a child star in the Disney sense, where that was your life. I had pretty normal teenage years up until 16, then it was very much "This is a job." I wasn't famous, but I had started working. Thankfully I've done okay, I think! ●

(NEIGHBOURS) EVERETT; BOTTOM, FROM LEFT: HAYLEY MADDEN/REDFERNS; FREDERICK M. BROWN/GETTY IMAGES; JOHN STANTON/WIREIMAGE

Ruling the Dance Floor

Club Queen
In 2000 Minogue topped the charts with her seventh album, *Light Years*, and smash hit "Spinning Around."



Golden Girl
She won the Best Dance Recording Grammy in 2004 for "Come into My World."

Triumphant Return
In 2005 Minogue performed her first show after revealing her cancer diagnosis.

Time to Glitter
"I hope releasing music through a pandemic gives some joy," says Minogue (in her "Magic" video).

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A Second Chance
"He definitely beat the odds," says Dr. Daniel Dea of Garfield (inset, in the hospital on March 10, and, right, at home with his dog Bear in August).

COVID-19 SURVIVOR STORY

'I'm the *Luckiest* Person Alive'

ONE OF THE FIRST CORONAVIRUS CASES IN THE U.S., GREGG GARFIELD SPENT 64 DAYS FIGHTING FOR HIS LIFE *By* **JOHNNY DODD**

MICHAEL BECKER; COURTESY GREGG GARFIELD

Unsuspecting Victims
"Of the 13 guys on our trip, five of us were hospitalized and three were put on a ventilator," says Garfield (second from left, in Italy on Feb. 25), all of whose friends survived.

It had been two days since Gregg Garfield had been wheeled into Providence St. Joseph Medical Center in Burbank, Calif., by paramedics in hazmat suits—and his doctors were growing increasingly alarmed about his deteriorating condition. Diagnosed with COVID-19 just days earlier, on March 3, after returning from a ski vacation in Italy with 12 friends, the then-53-year-old was slowly suffocating as he struggled to get oxygen into his body through his infected lungs. Doctors knew his only chance of survival meant sedating him and putting him on a respirator. Before the anesthetic began to take effect, Garfield remembers looking up at the ICU nurse standing at his bedside, clad in a hazmat suit, and whispering, "I don't want to die."

Over the next 64 days, he came frighteningly close—but thanks to his team of doctors and nurses and his characteristically stubborn refusal to stop fighting, Garfield survived. Among the first people in Southern California to contract COVID-19, the deadly respiratory and vascular disease that has killed more than 235,000 Americans, he soon became known as "patient zero" at the Los Angeles hospital, where he spent more than two months fighting for his life. "He was my miracle patient," says Dr. Daniel Dea, a pulmonologist and critical-care specialist, who led Garfield's medical team and, at the lowest point, gave his patient a 1 percent chance of survival as the virus attacked his immune system, causing his lungs, kidneys and liver to repeatedly shut down. "Not only did he survive multi-organ failure, but he's returned to near normal. That's a miraculous thing." Garfield, who spent 31 days on a respirator and lost multiple fingers and toes owing to the lack of blood flow to his extremities, knows just how much the odds were stacked against him. "I'm the luckiest person alive," he says.

Up until Garfield's battle with COVID, the athletic Los Angeles resident, who owns a credit- card-processing company and regularly logs 100 days a year skiing, had been the picture of health. He arrived in Val Gardena in northern Italy's Dolomite Mountains on Feb. 21, excited to hit the slopes and oblivious to the pandemic that was just beginning to sweep through the region. "We were outdoors and skiing nearly all the time, so we didn't think too much about it," recalls Garfield, who believes he contracted the virus on his first day while riding the packed gondola to the top of the mountain. One by one everyone in his group began coming down with body aches, low-grade fevers, sore throats and congestion. Garfield, who usually never misses a day of skiing on a trip, spent three days in bed at their hotel.

His symptoms hadn't improved by the time he boarded the flight home on March 1, and shortly after he arrived back in California, his internist

COURTESY GREGG GARFIELD(5)

His Long Road to Recovery

Off the Ventilator
"Thousands of people around the world were praying for him," says Johnson (with Garfield on April 16).

Learning to Walk Again
"I went from not being able to get out of bed to walking out of the hospital in 14 days," says Garfield (on April 28 during a rehab session).

Rebuilding His Hands
"I'll be able to grab a ski pole after my next surgery," says Garfield (before undergoing a Sept. 18 procedure.)

Staying Strong
"He's able to do so many things," says Johnson (with Garfield on Aug. 2 after one of his surgeries). "It's all because of his mindset."

> ‘I’m determined to try and make the best out of the cards I’ve been dealt—that’s always been my mentality’
> —GREGG GARFIELD

Grateful to Be Alive
“We can get ahead of this thing if we just wear a mask and socially distance,” says Garfield (at home in Los Angeles, with Johnson, in August).

persuaded the CDC—one of the few organizations able to test for the disease at the time—to determine whether Garfield had the virus. The test came back positive 24 hours later, and in the middle of the night on March 5 Garfield phoned a concerned friend and groaned, “I’m ready to go to the hospital. I can’t breathe. I’m gurgling in my lungs. I feel like death.”

Within two days his oxygen levels had plummeted, and he’d begun fighting to stay alive. Doctors put him on a ventilator, and he spent the next month sedated and unconscious as hospital staff packed him in ice to bring down his fever and worked to prevent his blood pressure from dropping too low. His body was also being slowly devoured by sepsis—a frequent occurrence in severe COVID cases, where the patient’s immune system goes into overdrive trying to fight the virus—and antibiotic-resistant MRSA. “His sister Stephanie and I were both staying as positive as we could,” says his fiancée, A.J. Johnson, 47, who never left his side, updating friends and a global audience of well-wishers on his condition. “But if we’d really known what his chances of survival were, I don’t know if we could have stayed that positive.”

But incredibly, Garfield—whom Dr. Dea describes as a “healthy, strong-willed fighter with the mind of an athlete”—began to bounce back. By the time doctors removed him from the ventilator on April 2, he’d lost 50 lbs., and various portions of eight fingers and three of his toes had turned black. “I felt like Rip Van Winkle,” says Garfield, who walked out of the hospital on May 8 in front of hundreds of cheering nurses, doctors and friends. “I went to sleep for a month and awoke to a world where everything had changed.”

Since emerging from the hospital (his nearly $3 million medical bill was fully covered by insurance), Garfield has been focused on getting his damaged lungs back in shape (he works out daily on an elliptical) and undergoing a series of surgeries (seven so far) to remove and reconstruct his damaged fingers and toes. He plans in the coming months on being fitted with a cutting-edge prosthesis that will help restore function to his right hand—and allow him to grasp a ski pole. He’s already making plans to return to the slopes at California’s Mammoth Mountain in December.

In August he proposed to Johnson, his girlfriend of two years, and has begun using every opportunity to stress to people the importance of taking COVID seriously. “It’s empowering to know that my battle has helped others,” says Garfield, whose doctors have told him that his case has led medical professionals to better understand how to keep critically ill patients alive. “I’m honored to have been an early patient who gave my doctors and nurses on the front lines hope—and the will to achieve the unachievable.” ●

MICHAEL BECKER

Natural-Born Entertainer
"My family would turn on the record player and say, 'Dance, little Debbie,'" recalls Allen. "I was the entertainment for them for a long time."

DEBBIE ALLEN

WHAT I KNOW NOW

AFTER 50 YEARS IN SHOWBIZ, THE AWARD-WINNING ACTRESS AND DIRECTOR IS STILL DANCING HER WAY THROUGH LIFE

By **CHRISTINA DUGAN**

For a woman who wears many hats, Debbie Allen keeps her priorities in check. "I put myself last on my list," says the Grey's Anatomy *actress and executive producer, 70, after taking a FaceTime call from her granddaughter during her* People *interview via Zoom. "I'm never just about myself." This selflessness, along with a mix of hard work, determination and humility, has earned Allen global recognition as an actress, producer, dancer, director and choreographer. From her work on* Fame*—the '80s movie and the subsequent TV show, for which she became the first Black woman to win a Golden Globe for Best Actress in a Television Series—to opening the Debbie Allen Dance Academy 20 years ago, Allen has paved the way for artists and creators, all while facing challenges head on and staying true to herself. "I'm one who will stay the course and believe, even though it's difficult at times," says Allen, who is the subject of the upcoming Netflix documentary* Dance Dreams: Hot Chocolate Nutcracker *and directed the streaming service's holiday movie* Christmas on the Square, *starring Dolly Parton. Below, the mother of three looks back on the years of tears, laughter and, yes, sweat that led her to where she is now. "My life has been such a positive journey in so many ways," she says, "with the spirit of the dance guiding me all the way. I just feel blessed."*

Mom always knows best.

I was privileged growing up with a mother, Vivian Ayers Allen, who was just brilliant in terms of her visions of herself as an artist and a poet. Growing up in Houston, everything was segregated, but she made her children believe that all of the places that we couldn't go were places that we didn't want to go. That there were other places in the universe that were calling us. They were beckoning us. And that we would find them, and we did. I grew up with a woman who was not just a dreamer, but someone who could transform herself into whatever it was she believed.

> 'I've always had a sense of family in my success'
> –DEBBIE ALLEN

The color of my skin did not—and does not—define me.

At 14 years old, I became the first Black student at the Houston Ballet Foundation. There was a real degree of difficulty if you were trying to do

Finding *Fame*
"I came in with a wealth of experience," says Allen (ca. 1982), who'd performed on Broadway before starring in the *Fame* movie and TV series.

FROM LEFT: CHRISTIAN PEACOCK COMMISSIONED BY DANCE MEDIA; EVERETT

certain things. My mother had taught us that we were children of the universe, not just in Texas. There was a greater world for us, and we had to see ourselves in the universe. And we did. When you get a real sense of who you are, and your freedom, and your rights—there was no stopping us. We were very aware that we had to stand up for our rights, and we had to fight for it. You can't be afraid. Fear cannot be the factor that guides you.

To dance is to live.

I grew up with a lot of ideas about myself. I always wanted to dance. I don't remember ever not dancing. I used to sit as a little girl, contemplating the stars and the universe. And feeling myself. I used to do performances in the backyard to the birds in the trees. I had a sense that I was in a big world and that there was a place for me. I couldn't articulate it as a child; I just knew the joy and the spirit of dance. It was inside of me. It was alive in me.

From rejection comes strength.

I went to the North Carolina School of the Arts to audition to go there for college. I had been so well-trained by that time by the Houston Ballet Foundation. I got there early, and I watched the auditions; I watched class. I was like, "Oh, I know all of this. I'll be good." I got to my audition [group], and they used me to demonstrate. And then when it was over, I was excited. I wanted to know when I would start. And the man told me I was not going to be accepted because my body type wasn't right. That was just devastating. It still hurts. It stopped me until my mother made me know that I could not have a pity party. That experience provided the opportunity that became the whole rest of

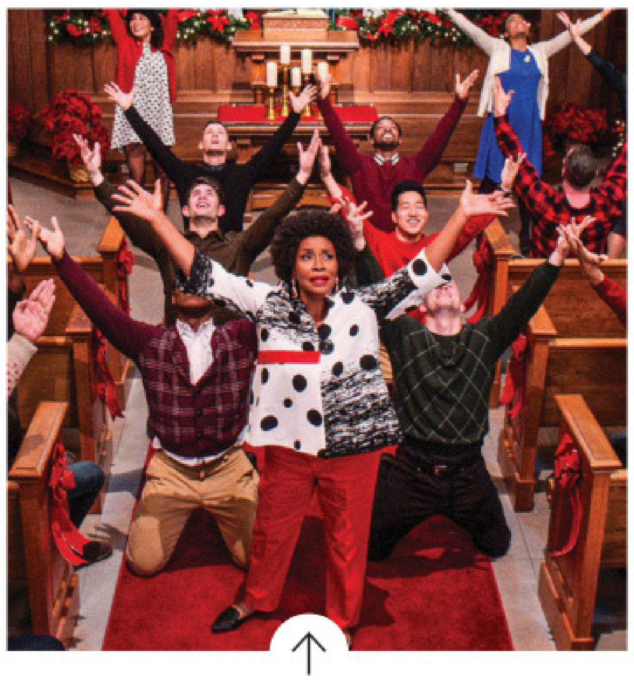
Going with the Flow
"I think some people were born to do what they do," says Allen (with Gene Anthony Ray on *Fame* in 1982).

Debbie's Latest Moves

"I've got to keep going," says Allen of her packed workload. Currently on the docket: starring in and executive-producing *Grey's Anatomy* (returning Nov. 12 on ABC), directing and choreographing *Christmas on the Square* and being the subject of a Netflix documentary. "I can't tell you how, only that I'm motivated to do it all."

↑

Grey's Anatomy
"I feel really blessed to do the work that I do," says Allen (above, directing an episode and left, onscreen with Chandra Wilson).



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Christmas on the Square
The Netflix holiday film, premiering Nov. 22, stars Jenifer Lewis (shown), Dolly Parton and Christine Baranski.

↑

Dance Dreams: Hot Chocolate Nutcracker
The doc, out Nov. 27, "is about young people seeing an image of themselves that propels them," says Allen (with Destiny Wimpye, left, and Jalyn Flowers).

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP RIGHT: EVERETT; NETFLIX(2); CHRISTOPHER WILLARD/ABC/GETTY IMAGES; ERIC MCCANDLESS/WALT DISNEY TELEVISION/GETTY IMAGES; EVERETT

my life. And then I was blessed to go to Howard University, where I was bathed in my cultural identity. [Famed choreographer] Mike Malone saw me at a party doing a double or triple turn and pulled me out of the party and put me back where I belonged, at the dance barre, working with his company. [Allen completed her bachelor's degree in classical Greek literature, speech and theater before moving to New York to continue pursuing her career.]

Ask for what you want—and then do the work.
In the movie *Fame,* I played Lydia Grant, a student. They decided to make it a television series and asked me, "Do you want to play the dance teacher? We want someone young." I said, "Oh, if I could be responsible for the choreography." They said, "You can have that." They didn't understand that was my key to the kingdom. So they paid me maybe 25 percent of what I was getting paid as an actress to do the choreography. But it was the choreography that was everything for me. I was designing the camerawork too. Sometimes the directors would go home, and I would say, "I got you, honey. I'm going to finish this." It's not about getting people to respect you. It's people seeing what you're doing. It's your body of work. That is where the respect comes. The respect comes in the doing, not in talking.

Creating opportunities for others is the ultimate joy.
When I started directing, there was nobody who looked like me. Black, white, there were no women that I could see. And I knew it was a matter of opportunity, giving someone a chance. When I started executive-producing *Grey's Anatomy,* I made a mandate for myself for more diversity. And so I started looking and making calls and looking in film festivals. And I found some incredible women to direct—including the first transgender director in network television—and also getting Ellen Pompeo to direct.

The arts bring people together.
I was always talking about opening a school. These kids, they don't know enough. And then my husband looked at me one day and said, "Why are you asking permission to breathe? Just do it." I'm like, "You know, you're right." So I jumped like a cat on a hot tin roof into my savings. This year is the 20th anniversary of Debbie Allen Dance Academy. The arts is not just a way out. It's a way in. It's a way in to your humanity. It is a way in to the beauty of the world. It's a way in to finding your power. That's what it is. ●

TOP RIGHT: RON GALELLA COLLECTION/GETTY IMAGES

A Happy & Talented Family

Supportive Parents
"My dad always told me, 'Keep dancing, Debbie. You'll be fine,'" says Allen (with parents Andrew, an orthodontist, and Vivian, a Pulitzer-nominated poet, at the 1983 Golden Globe Awards).

Women Empowering Women
"Phylicia is my best friend," Allen says of her older sister, actress Phylicia Rashad, 72 (with their mom in 2018). "We share our secrets, our joy and our hopes."

The Best Tribe
"I love that I'm connected to my children and a part of their lives," says Allen (with husband Norman and their three children, Norm Jr., Vivian and DeVaughn).

True Soulmates
"We've always had a relationship based on mutual respect," Allen says of her husband, former NBA player Norman Nixon, 65. "Here we are 36 years later and doing better than ever."

Grandma Duties
"She loves to dance already," Allen says of granddaughter Shiloh, 21 months. Allen's daughter Vivian is currently pregnant again, which will make Allen a grandmother of two.

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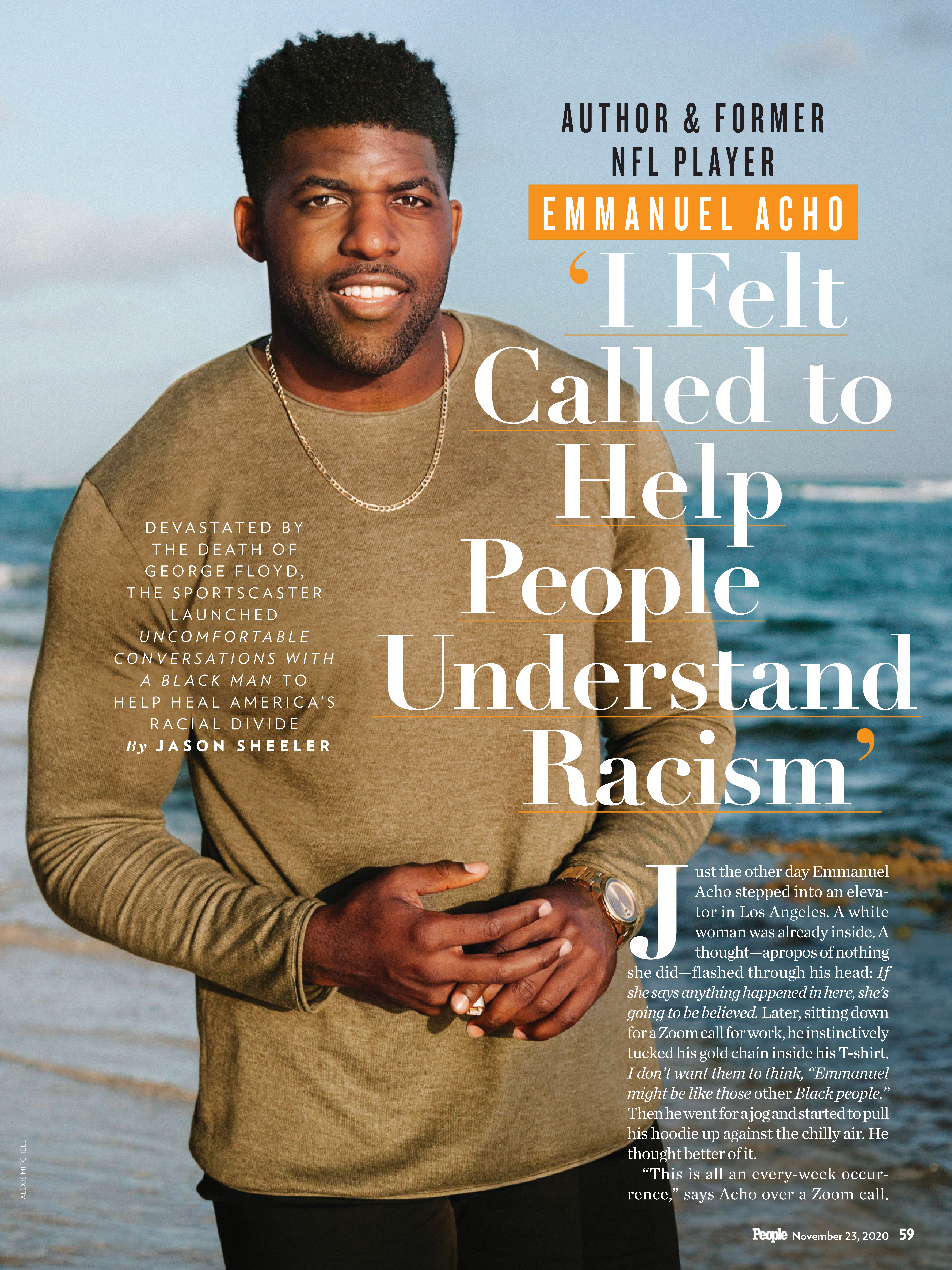

ALEXIS MITCHELL

AUTHOR & FORMER NFL PLAYER

EMMANUEL ACHO

'I Felt Called to Help People Understand Racism'

DEVASTATED BY THE DEATH OF GEORGE FLOYD, THE SPORTSCASTER LAUNCHED *UNCOMFORTABLE CONVERSATIONS WITH A BLACK MAN* TO HELP HEAL AMERICA'S RACIAL DIVIDE

By **JASON SHEELER**

Just the other day Emmanuel Acho stepped into an elevator in Los Angeles. A white woman was already inside. A thought—apropos of nothing she did—flashed through his head: *If she says anything happened in here, she's going to be believed.* Later, sitting down for a Zoom call for work, he instinctively tucked his gold chain inside his T-shirt. *I don't want them to think, "Emmanuel might be like those* other *Black people."* Then he went for a jog and started to pull his hoodie up against the chilly air. He thought better of it.

"This is all an every-week occurrence," says Acho over a Zoom call.

Straight Talk
When Chip and Joanna Gaines appeared on Acho's show, they brought their kids. Emmie, 10 (second from left), asked Acho if he's "afraid of white people." "I am not afraid," Acho told her. "I am cautious."

"I'm consciously always trying to make sure I do my best, so that a white person doesn't preemptively judge me. Being Black is just different. I'm not playing a victim or any of that—racism exists. And because of it, I have to navigate the way I live."

For most of his 30 years, the former Philadelphia Eagles linebacker turned sports analyst just dealt with those moments of fear. But after George Floyd was killed at the hands of police in May, he decided he needed to do something—anything—to help with the division between white and Black Americans. "I was broken," he says. "I needed to speak."

The result was a series on YouTube titled *Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man*. Filled with clearheaded guidance and explanations—how to think about Black Lives Matter protests, why you might want to attend a Black church—the series became a runaway hit, earning Oprah Winfrey's endorsement and racking up millions of views after Acho, a sportscaster at ESPN at the time, landed interviews with the likes of Matthew McConaughey and Chip and Joanna Gaines. Now he has written a book of the same name (for Winfrey's imprint). It's as much memoir as guidebook, with deep dives on the dangers of stereotyping and cultural appropriation, the never-ending horror of the N-word (see sidebar) and the value of allyship between whites and Blacks. He laughs at the suggestion he could have called it *Racism for Dummies*: "Definitely!"

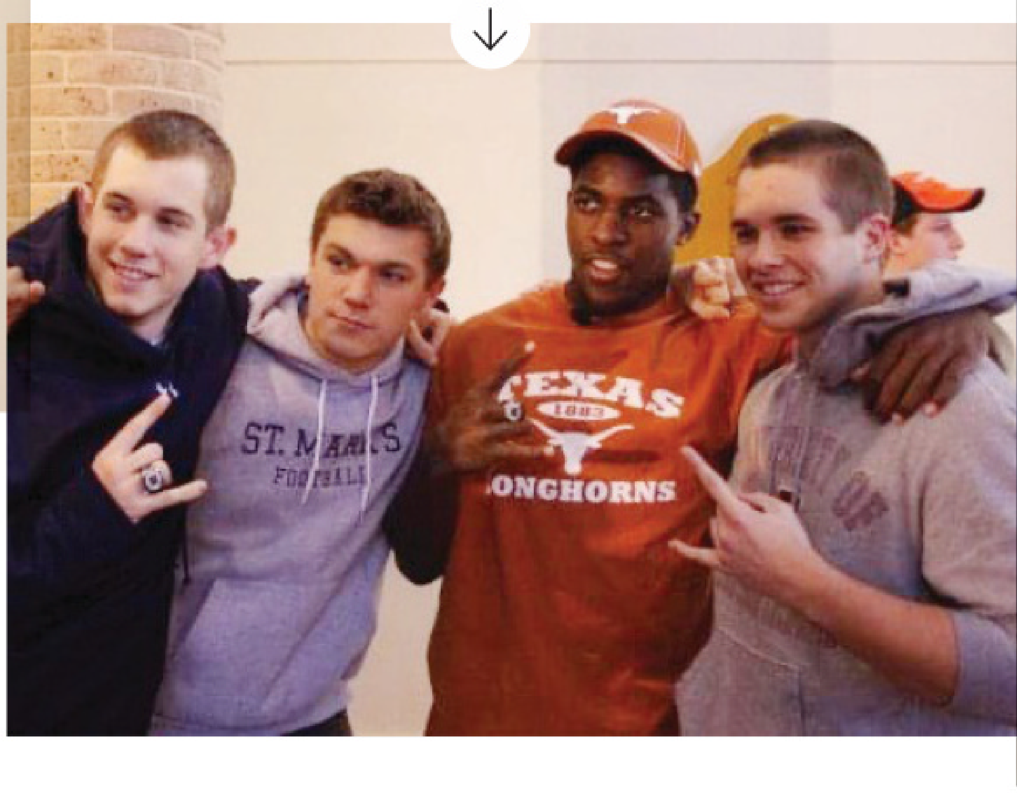
A first-generation American, Acho recalls first experiencing racism when he was in fifth grade. Raised by Nigerian parents in Dallas, he and his brother (Sam, an NFL free agent) and two sisters (Chichi and Stephanie) attended nearly all-white schools. Kids would say to him: "Emmanuel, you dress too nice to be Black. Emmanuel, you talk too smart to be Black. Emmanuel, you're not like those Black dudes in the music videos." They called him an Oreo: Black on the outside, white on the inside. He is not sure his friends were aware of the pain they were inflicting. "You can be racist and not know it," he says. Nevertheless, identity issues began: "I worried I wasn't Black *enough*."

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: JUAN JOSE/UNCOMFORTABLE CONVERSATIONS WITH A BLACK MAN; COURTESY EMMANUEL ACHO(2)

Road to Enlightenment

Preacher's Son
Acho's parents emigrated from Nigeria to Dallas, where his dad is a pastor. Every weekend, Acho says, "we were in church."

Teachable Moments
"As a Black man, you navigate America oftentimes as a foreigner," says Acho (with classmates at St. Mark's School in 2007).



In junior high and high school, Acho led a bifurcated life. Weekends were at the largely Black church where his father is still the pastor. His mother worked as a nurse. "But we were Nigerian—it wasn't necessarily Black culture." Weekdays were at a privileged private school in Dallas where he was "immersed in white culture." (Only six students in his high school class were Black.) A talented football player, he received a scholarship to the University of Texas in 2008. He majored in sports management and later received a master's degree. "I got to college and found other Black people," he says. "I was like, 'Y'all look like me.' It felt like I was home."

After playing in the NFL, where "I was immersed in Black culture to the point where I'm riding through the hood with my homeboys," Acho began to feel truly bilingual in an increasingly polarized country. "I realized I could talk to my white friends," he says, "and be like, 'Oh, y'all don't get it.' "

Among the things he believes white Americans still don't get: the importance of the words they use. "Instead of the N-word, words like 'thug' were substituted," he says. " 'See those thugs over there?' Why are they thugs? Because they're playing basketball in jeans that might be sagging? Words have the power to heal and the power to kill. We should choose wisely."

He advises his white friends—and audience, now reaching millions per episode—not to be afraid to ask the Black people in their lives potentially uncomfortable questions. An important one, he says, is: Does the person identify as Black or African-American? (Acho prefers Black, personally, as it's more inclusive.)

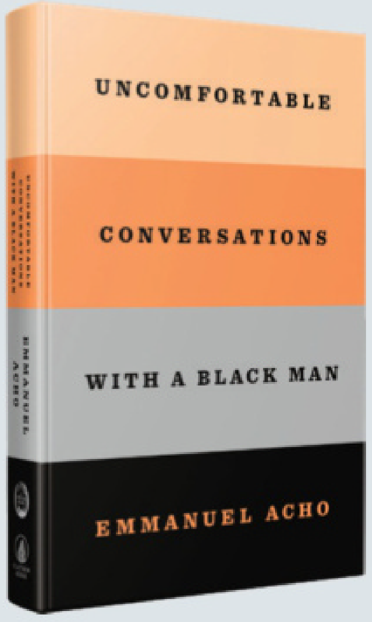
Whites should be questioning themselves as well. A good starting point, he says: "When's the last time you had a conversation with a group of Black people? Ever? You can't teach yourself something that you have no inherent knowledge of. Distance breeds fear."

Now living in L.A., Acho, who is single (he was asked to compete on *The Bachelorette* and declined), is working for Fox Sports and has more episodes of his series in the works. His large, diverse group of friends helps him maintain his fluency in two cultures, and he sees continuing to explain one to the other as a calling. "I have the ability to do it as a first-generation American—I don't harbor the same pain, anguish and justified despair that many of my Black brothers and sisters do," he explains. He is thrilled the country has elected a woman of color as Vice President—but that doesn't change the work still to be done. "Racism is in the atmosphere. That's what people don't want to admit," he says. "But we can't fix it until we admit it's there." ●

Building Bridges

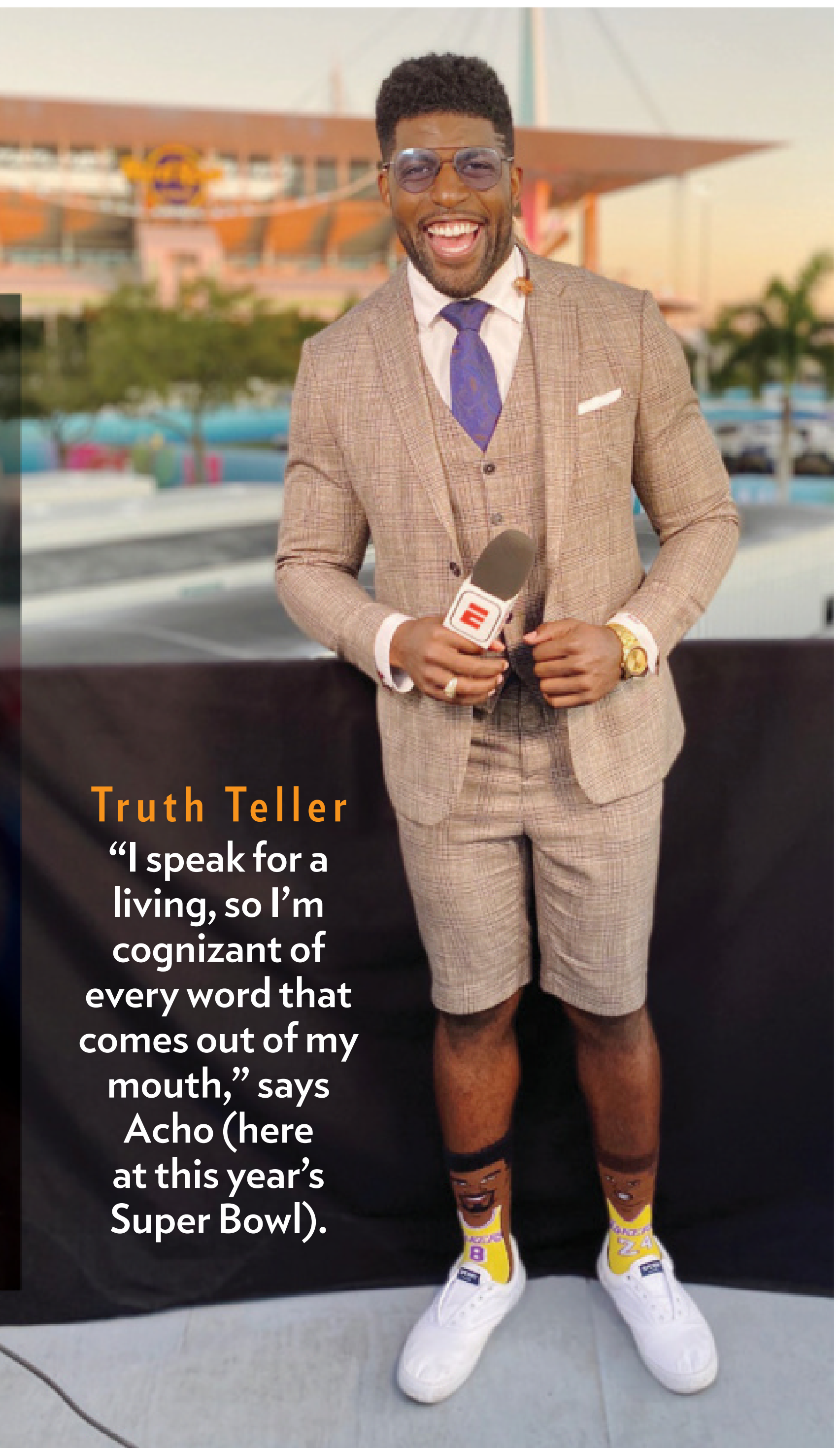
Acho aims to serve as an ambassador from Black America to white. His new book, *Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man,* is bracingly frank.

Let's just get the basics out of the way right now: No. You can't use "nigga," or any other variation. There will never be any circumstances under which a white person should use the word nigger. Period. Imagine the worst insult you've ever received. Now imagine that when you heard those words, what you also heard was that you're second-class forever. That you don't deserve any of this American dream. Imagine what you heard was: *You're an animal.* Imagine you heard, *You're stupid. You're a slave. My people owned your people, and you were better off when they did.* Imagine that you heard, *You won't amount to anything, boy.* If you can picture one word communicating all of that, then you'll have some sense of what hearing the N-word does to me and any other Black person in America.



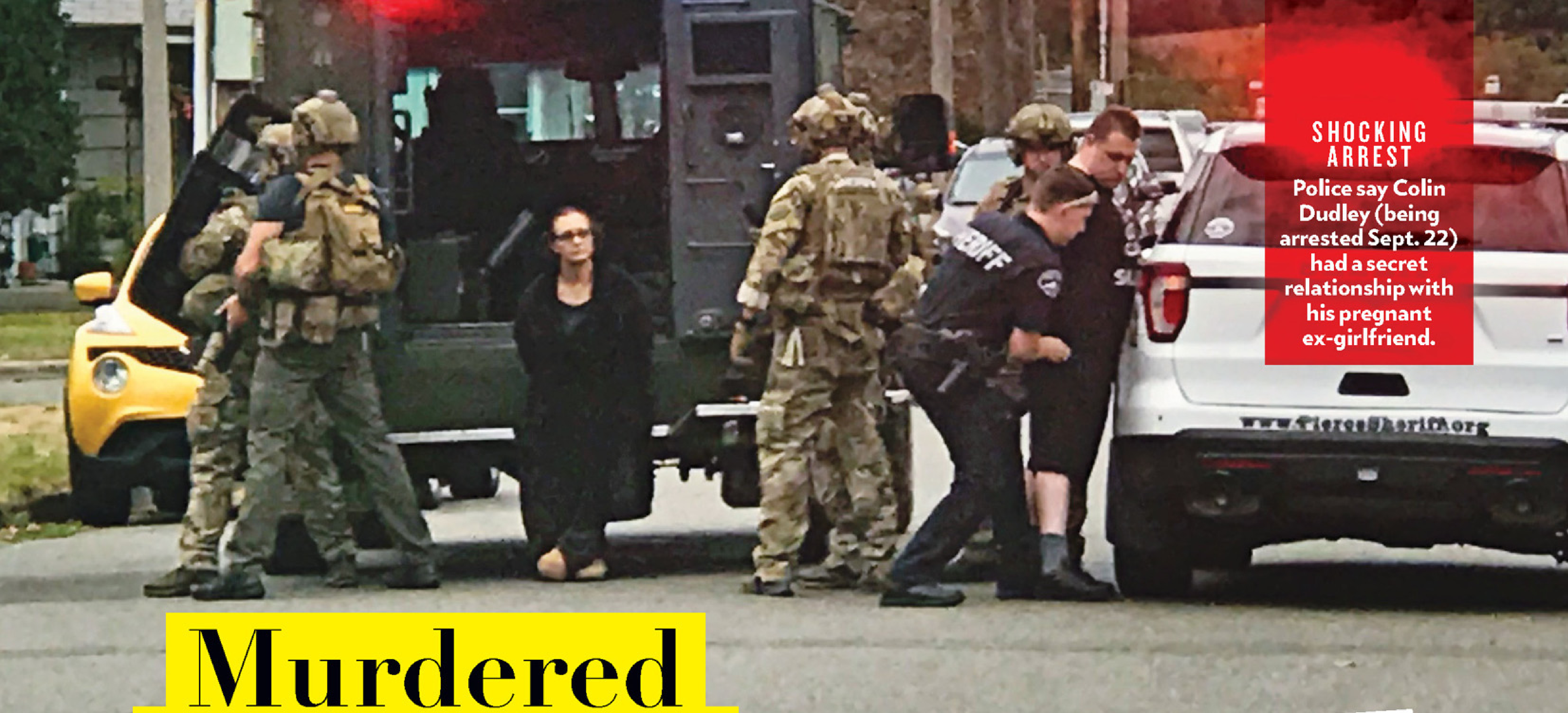
Excerpted from *Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man*. Copyright © 2020 by Emmanuel Acho excerpted by permission of Flatiron Books, an Oprah Book imprint, a division of Macmillan Publishers.

Goalposts
"In the NFL, I was immersed in Black culture. What I learned there prepared me for this very moment."



Truth Teller
"I speak for a living, so I'm cognizant of every word that comes out of my mouth," says Acho (here at this year's Super Bowl).

FROM LEFT: BRIAN BAHR/GETTY IMAGES; COURTESY EMMANUEL ACHO



SHOCKING ARREST
Police say Colin Dudley (being arrested Sept. 22) had a secret relationship with his pregnant ex-girlfriend.

Murdered Mom-to-Be

FATAL AFFAIR?

PREGNANT KASSANNDRA CANTRELL WAS HAVING A SECRET RELATIONSHIP WITH AN EX. NOW POLICE HAVE CHARGED HIM WITH KILLING HER *By* **K.C. BAKER**

SHATTERED DREAMS
Kassanndra Cantrell (right) was "thrilled" to be pregnant and had already picked out baby names, says her mom.

Marie Smith and Kassanndra Cantrell were always more like best friends than mother and daughter. The pair loved snuggling up to watch old '80s movies and meticulously decorated the house they shared in Parkland, Wash., for Halloween and Christmas together. Kassanndra, 33, even shared stories about her dating life with her mom, Marie, 59. One boyfriend in particular had impacted Kassanndra's life from the age of 18: Colin Dudley, a man she had worked with in a local theater production of *The Rocky Horror Picture Show*. Though the two had broken up years earlier and Dudley had moved on with someone else, Kassanndra remained in touch. "She said he was just a friend," says Marie. "That's what she told me."

Then in July, Kassanndra surprised her mother with the news that she was pregnant. Kassanndra said she was planning to raise the baby alone, since the father was someone she had dated only "a couple of times." And Marie offered her unconditional support. "She wanted this gentle, magical life for the baby," says Marie. "Kind of a fairy tale."

TOP: COURTESY PIERCE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

But the idyllic existence Marie envisioned for her daughter and grandchild turned into an unspeakable nightmare. On Aug. 25, the day before her first ultrasound appointment, Kassandra vanished. Nearly a month later, on Sept. 22, her body was found wrapped in garbage bags in a thickly wooded ravine in a nearby town; she had been stabbed, and her skull was fractured. Police soon arrested Dudley, 37, at the Tacoma, Wash., home he shared with his live-in girlfriend and charged him with first-degree murder. Dudley, who authorities believe is the father of Kassandra's baby, has pleaded not guilty and is being held on a $2 million bond. "[We had been] hoping for the best but expecting the worst," says Pierce County Sheriff's Office Det. Ed Troyer. "We're happy that there's resolution.... But we're also sad for the family."

●●●

Even before she learned she was pregnant, Kassandra had dreamed of being a mom and loved being around children, working on and off as a full-time babysitter. "She was a Mary Poppins sort of nanny," says Marie. "She made things fun. Kids gravitated to her." Kassandra's nanny salary often funded shopping sprees for the vintage clothes she adored, like the 1930s flapper dress she had been known to wear grocery shopping. "She'd say, 'It's a beautiful dress and meant to be worn,'" says close friend Alexandra McNary, 22, who was supposed to accompany Kassandra to her ultrasound appointment. "She was always just authentically Kass. She never pretended to be anything or anyone else."

Except when it came to Dudley, it seems. Kassandra started spending time with her ex after his father died in 2014, "and kept him weirdly secret," says Alexandra, because she knew her mother didn't like him. According to a police affidavit filed in court, Kassandra learned she was pregnant on July 16 and during a subsequent doctor's visit identified Dudley as the father; her doctor noted at the time that she was "overwhelmed." "She was really scared to tell him," says Alexandra. "She said he didn't want kids and that he'd said if she ever got pregnant he'd sue for custody because he'd be mad that she ruined his life, so he'd take away the one thing she cared about." On Aug. 12, Alexandra says, Kassandra decided to tell Dudley about her pregnancy and that he was the father, "and she said it went better than she thought it would," says Alexandra. But prosecutors allege that, in fact, Dudley began meticulously planning to murder Kassandra, who went to his house on the day she went missing.

It's a reality that Marie struggles to accept. She still tiptoes past her daughter's bedroom in the morning, as if Kassandra were asleep inside. And she finds herself crying when she sees her daughter's two Chihuahuas circling her empty bed. "They're looking for her in her room," says Marie. "I'm still doing all our routines.... Now she's just not there." ●

'I STILL SEND HER TEXTS.... SHE WOULD HAVE BEEN SUCH A GOOD MOM'
—MARIE SMITH

From Missing to Murdered

Authorities—and loved ones—hoped Kassandra Cantrell, pregnant with her first child, would be found alive after she vanished Aug. 25. Their search began with ex-boyfriend Colin Dudley and soon turned tragic.

←

WARRANT SERVED

Led by a SWAT team, investigators arrived at Dudley's Tacoma home (left) on Aug. 31, looking for clues about Kassandra's disappearance.

→

HIDDEN HORROR

GPS data allegedly recovered from Dudley's truck led investigators to a steep hillside in a nearby town on Sept. 22, where they found Kassandra's body.

←

AWAITING TRIAL

Dudley (on Sept. 25) told police he hadn't seen his ex Kassandra in years and wouldn't "jeopardize" his current relationship by having an affair.

FROM TOP: DREW PERRINE/THE NEWS TRIBUNE; COURTESY PIERCE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE; JOSHUA BESSEX/THE NEWS TRIBUNE

THE MANDALORIAN'S PEDRO PASCAL

The Man Behind the Mask!

YOU CAN'T SEE HIS FACE IN THE HIT STAR WARS SERIES—BUT PROTECTING BABY YODA IS A DREAM ROLE FOR THE ACTOR, THE SON OF REFUGEES FROM CHILE

By **NIGEL SMITH**

Pedro Pascal is on the hottest streak of his career—but for his most popular role, his face remains completely hidden. As the planet-hopping bounty hunter at the center of Disney+'s hit Star Wars series *The Mandalorian,* he's encased in a mask and armor, able to express himself only through his movements and commanding voice. "The general rule is the better it looks, the more uncomfortable it is," Pascal says of his futuristic costume. "It's a delicious kind of detailed, technical and at times surgical work, but it ends up looking so good that it turns out to be worth it."

So what if his sidekick—a big-eared creature officially called the Child but now galaxy-famous as Baby Yoda—adorably steals scene after scene? Coming after his charismatic turns on HBO's *Game of Thrones* and Netflix's *Narcos, The Mandalorian,* now in its second season, has helped make Pascal, 45, a top Hollywood name at last. Next up, he costars in the superhero sequel *Wonder Woman 1984.*

'It isn't a fluke that people are so in love with the Child'

—ON COSTAR BABY YODA

Cutest Costar

Pascal was "immediately convinced" to make *The Mandalorian* after seeing an illustration of the Child, aka Baby Yoda. Pascal says he "cooed a little bit" when he met the real deal. "He's very soft to the touch. It's a very, very special creation."

The son of political refugees from Chile says his parents' struggles have always helped him put his own ups and downs in perspective. His parents, Verónica Pascal, a child psychologist, and José Balmaceda, a fertility doctor, risked their lives to work for the opposition movement against the military dictatorship of Augusto Pinochet. When Pedro was 9 months old, the family fled Chile—first to Denmark, then to San Antonio—to seek asylum. Looking back Pascal feels he was a bit of a "spoiled kid." He recalls arguing with his parents about things like how late he could stay up to watch TV. "I'm being a little harsh with myself, but this would have been about eight years after they had been running for their lives," he says. "I was so well taken care of and shielded from it."

As a boy, Pascal was passionate about swimming, competing in state championships in Texas around age 11. But after moving to California and taking a few acting classes, he found a new calling, enrolling in courses at the Orange County School of the Arts and later at NYU. While he was in New York City, his mother died, a life-changing loss. "She was always incredibly supportive, never a stage mom," he says. "I always felt like she knew something that I didn't." He changed his professional last name from Balmaceda, his father's, to Pascal, his mother's. "None of [my success] would be real if it weren't for her," he says.

Before heading to a galaxy far, far away, Pascal worked in theater and played small parts on shows like *The Good Wife,* then caught fans' attention with his seductive, swashbuckling turn as Oberyn Martell on *Game of Thrones* in 2014. But, as he puts it, Star Wars "is as big as it gets." Recalling his first appearance to promote *The Mandalorian,* Pascal says, "I remember stepping out onstage, and it felt like being on the receiving end of a jet. It was intoxicating."

But as big as being part of the franchise is, Pascal admits that spending much of the pandemic alone in New York City has reminded him "who I am and what's important," especially his personal relationships. "I relied on my friends like one would food and water," he says. "Because I was on my own, I felt a little rattled and ultimately grateful for all of my friendships, old and new. We were there for each other. That really is the only thing that matters." ●

Rising Star, Man of Action

Game of Thrones

His character Oberyn Martell was delightfully "extravagant," he says—and left a lasting impression with one of the show's most gruesome deaths in 2014.

Narcos

Pascal played real-life DEA agent Javier F. Peña, who investigated the Colombian drug cartel, in the Netflix series from 2015 to 2017.

Wonder Woman 1984

In the upcoming sequel, the superheroine faces off against Kristen Wiig's shape-shifting Cheetah and Pascal's mysterious Maxwell Lord.

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: TRUNK ARCHIVE; LUCASFILM LTD. & TM(2); CLAY ENOS/ TM & © DC COMICS; DANIEL DAZA/NETFLIX; MACALL B. POLAY/HBO

little thing

COUNTRY STAR CARLY PEARCE

Surviving Heartbreak & Finding Strength

THIS SUMMER, SHE FILED FOR DIVORCE FROM FELLOW COUNTRY SINGER MICHAEL RAY AFTER JUST 8 MONTHS OF MARRIAGE. NOW THE HITMAKER IS OPENING UP ABOUT THE DECISION SHE NEVER WANTED TO MAKE *By* **NANCY KRUH**

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT: ALLISTER ANN; IMAGESPACE/SHUTTERSTOCK; EVAN AGOSTINI/INVISION/AP/SHUTTERSTOCK; (CARLY WITH HER MOM & FRIENDS) COURTESY CARLY PEARCE(2)

On what should have been Carly Pearce's first wedding anniversary on Oct. 6, the country singer swallowed hard and held to tradition: She thawed out the top tier of her wedding cake. But instead of digging into sweet memories with her husband, Pearce—who filed for divorce from fellow country star Michael Ray in June—brought the cake with her to dinner with two of her bridesmaids. "I had champagne with two girls who have walked the whole thing with me," says the 30-year-old singer. "Honestly, we cried, and we also celebrated me and celebrated what's to come. I blew out candles on my wedding cake with my girlfriends, and it was awesome because what could have been a really hard day felt like 'This is something new.'"

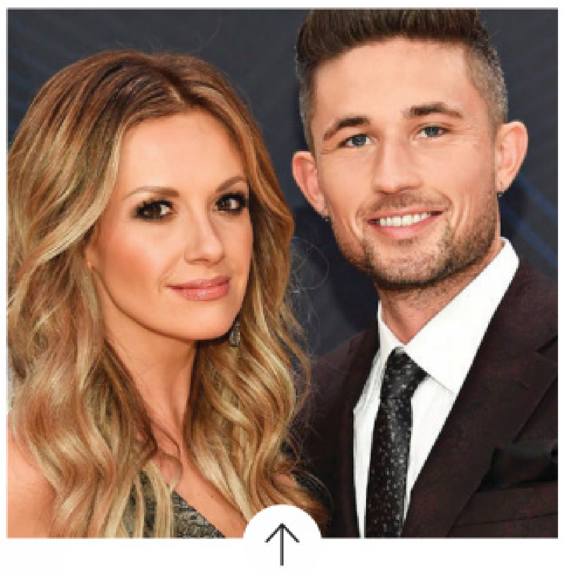
What that something is, Pearce still isn't quite sure. She *is* certain of one thing, though. "It's been single-handedly the hardest year of my life," she says bluntly. It also has been, blessedly, perhaps the best year of her career. Her No. 1 smash hit "I Hope You're Happy Now," a soulful duet with Lee Brice that she cowrote, is nominated for three Country Music Association Awards on Nov. 11. She's also nominated for New Artist of the Year, and her sassy breakup song "Next Girl" became the most-added track on usually male-dominated country radio after its release in September. "Country music has hugged me a lot this year," says Pearce. "And it saved me. It always does."

A Kentucky native who worked cleaning Airbnb rentals while struggling to break out in Nashville, Pearce burst onto the country scene in 2017 with her first chart-topper, "Every Little Thing." The heartbreak song, which she also cowrote, is one of several inspired by her past failed relationships. But in June 2018 Pearce was certain she'd finally met her match with Ray, 32, who's known for hits like "Kiss You in the Morning" and "One That Got Away." "It was so fast," she says of their romance, "and it was just fiery. We fell in love so quick, and we had this bond that I didn't even think I could ever have with somebody." They were engaged by that Christmas and wed 10 months later on a romantically rainy day outside Nashville. At the time, Pearce said she knew "without a shadow of a doubt that I didn't settle for something less than truly the person that I think was made for me." But this past summer, despite almost no outward signs of trouble in the marriage, she suddenly filed for divorce.

Silent about her decision ever since, Pearce is emotional as she opens up publicly for the first time about how she and Ray "very quickly realized we were not meant to be." (Ray is now dating country star Travis Tritt's 22-year-old daughter Tyler.) And yet she refuses to call their brief marriage a mistake: "I believe we don't go through things that we're not supposed to go through. My love was real. I will stand by that forever." But love wasn't enough to save the marriage. "I did everything that I knew how to do," she says, adding, "It takes two people to work on something." Pearce insists on keeping specific details of their differences private, but she points to a fundamental tenet of marriage: "When you love somebody, you trust them."

Topping the Charts

The "I Hope You're Happy Now" singer has toured with superstars Blake Shelton, Luke Bryan and Jason Aldean.



Faded Love

Pearce (with Ray in 2018) was smitten after their first date at famed honky-tonk the Nashville Palace.

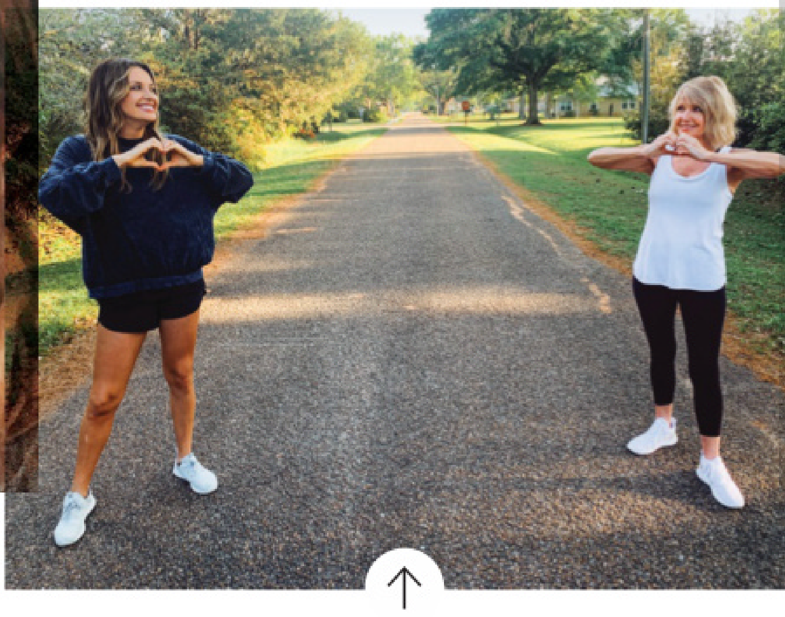
How She's Healing Her Heart

Girlfriends to Lean On

Pearce had a wine night with her "amazing" pals Kailey Dickerson, *Bachelorette* alum Kaitlyn Bristowe and singer Lindsay Ell in July.

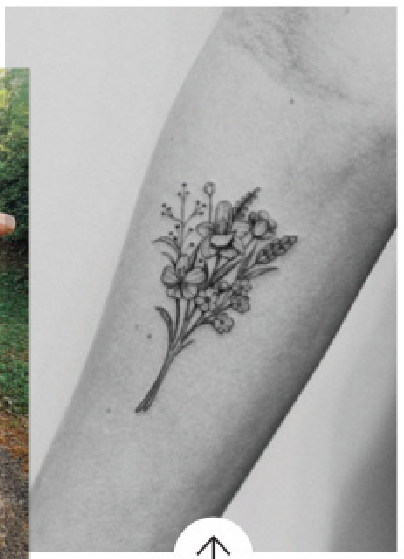
Puppy Love

Her new shih tzu is named June, after country legend June Carter.



Her Mom's Support

"I don't know what I'd do without her," says Pearce about her mom—and "biggest champion"—Jackie Slusser.



Hopeful Ink

Pearce's new tattoo depicts wildflowers. "They're the first that sprout after a long winter," she says.

promotion

Your guide to all the newest things you need to feel A-List.

NOVEMBER People SPOTLIGHT

It's A Wonderful Lifetime® continues with Feliz NaviDAD

Mario Lopez stars in Feliz NaviDAD; a single dad navigates the complicated online dating world during the holidays.

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It's a Wonderful
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Spending several weeks in quarantine this spring didn't cause their trouble, she says, but the lockdown did "give me the time to really deal with it." Once she did, she finally faced the crush of emotions. "I truly thought I was gonna die. There were moments I did not know if I could breathe," she says. "It was awful. It *is* awful. But I think that what's been awesome has been trusting myself and trusting that God won't take me through something that he won't bring me out of or bring good from."

* * *

Embarrassed by her split, Pearce was relieved that her family, friends and band members rushed to support her. "They were there to catch me when I fell and never left my side," she says. "I'm really grateful." She sought therapy for the first time in her life and dove deeper into her Christian faith. And she adopted a shih tzu puppy who offered her comfort on the nights she wept on her kitchen floor. "The unconditional love of an animal is so special," she says. "I'll always look at her as a little bit of a lifesaver."

Buoyed by the love from her country music family, Pearce has begun a new chapter in her music—in the wake of another trauma, the death of her longtime producer Busbee, who succumbed to brain cancer at age 43 in September 2019. Dialing down her pop vibe, she's returning to the '90s country sounds that first inspired her. Her single "Next Girl" is a warning from the perspective of a woman who's been jilted by a serial charmer. While it's easy to read into the lyrics, Pearce insists the track she cowrote isn't meant to drop clues about her divorce. "I have encountered this guy quite a few times in my life," she says. "*I* left this relationship. I certainly don't want to relive it every night in a song."

'I'm so thankful I trusted myself enough to get out'
—ON FILING FOR DIVORCE

Pearce knows she's nowhere near the end of her healing process. "I've been sad. I've been angry. I've been relieved," she says. "I try to not be mad at myself. I try to not be mad at him. And sure, I have days where I'm so mad at myself for just not knowing this was how it was all going to end up. My gosh, if I could go back, sure. But it's a part of my story, and that's okay." She measures that last word, then says it again with a sadder weight: "It's just . . . okay." Though she's not ready to date, Pearce holds out hope for marriage again someday. "I desire companionship and a family," she says. "Having divorce as a part of your story is hard. It's been hard for me to not feel like I'm defined by that. But in reality I know that I'm not. Everybody has a journey, and this is mine—and the right person will be able to love me through that." ●

Losing a Beloved Mentor

Pearce forged a tight bond with acclaimed producer-songwriter Michael James Ryan, who went by Busbee, after he signed her to two years of artist development in 2015. He helped Pearce find her sound as the producer of her two albums. Just 10 days after completing the latest one in 2019, he was diagnosed with terminal brain cancer. Pearce considered shelving the project "just because it was so painful for me," she says. But now "I feel so honored that I got the last full record that he ever made."

Perfect Harmony
"He wasn't just a producer for me," says Pearce (with Busbee in 2019, above, and in 2017, right). "He was a friend and confidant."

FROM TOP: ALLISTER ANN; COURTESY CARLY PEARCE(2)

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distortion
Unilever
NEW
FORMULA
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advanced care
¼ moisturizers with natural oil
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48h
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protection

Nombuso, Dancer

LAVERNE COX

‘Right Now, the World Needs Empathy and Love’

THE ACTRESS AND ACTIVIST HAS SPENT YEARS LEADING THE FIGHT FOR TRANSGENDER RIGHTS—AND INSPIRING THE NEXT GENERATION

Laverne Cox can be forgiven for being tired. The 48-year-old actress and filmmaker has been many “firsts” since her breakthrough role on *Orange Is the New Black* in 2013: the first trans actress to be nominated for an Emmy, to win a Daytime Emmy, to appear on the cover of *Time,* even to have a statue at Madame Tussauds Wax Museum. But as the unofficial face of the trans-rights movement, public progress made through Cox’s visibility and hard work has come at a private price. “When a population is deeply marginalized and experiences a tremendous amount of violence,” says Cox, referring to the 34 trans women, most of whom were BIPOC, who have been murdered in 2020 alone, “to actually speak the truth to that experience, you have to carry the weight of that around with you.”

Raised by a single mother along with her twin brother (composer-musician M Lamar) in Mobile, Ala., Cox experienced racism and severe bullying growing up. At 20, she moved to New York, where she later began transitioning. “I now realize how I’ve used stress hormones to survive—I’ve always been in perpetual fight, flight or freeze,” says Cox, who was an executive producer on *Disclosure,* a Netflix documentary that explores the depiction of transgender people in Hollywood. “Today, in this political environment, we dehumanize people we disagree with. What we need is to *re*-humanize each other. We need to have empathy and love.”

Cox says her next phase of activism is stepping aside so a new generation of LGBTQ leaders—she points to actresses like Indya Moore, MJ Rodriguez and Angelica Ross—can raise their voices. “Seeing young trans people shine brings shivers to my spine,” she says. “And, honestly, it feels like I can pull back a bit.” Whether Cox will actually stop to catch her breath remains to be seen, but hearing the conversation about LGBTQ rights grow louder reminds her that she’s never fought alone. “The reality is I’ve always had my community behind me and with me,” she says. “And that’s beautiful.” —**JASON SHEELER**

Making Moves, Making History

↑

Breakout Role
For her work on *Orange Is the New Black,* Cox (with Selenis Leyva in 2015) became the first trans woman nominated for an Emmy.

TIME

THE TRANSGENDER TIPPING POINT

America's next civil rights frontier

←

Face of Progress
“My existence is activism,” says Cox (on the cover of *Time* in 2014).

Scan this QR code to watch Cox in *People’s* SeeHer Story, a weekly video series highlighting trailblazing women, produced in partnership with Katie Couric Media.

CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: SHAYAN ASGHARNIA/AUGUST; NETFLIX

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PROP STYLIST: STEPHANIE YEH

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face

BEST SENSITIVE SKIN MOISTURIZER

La Roche-Posay Toleriane Double Repair Moisturizer

This nourishing cream feels so ultraluxe that one tester declared, "I'm swapping out my expensive moisturizer for it!" *$20; at CVS stores*

BEST FACE WASH

CeraVe Hydrating Facial Cleanser

"A good face wash should remove dirt and oil without stripping the skin. This gentle formula does just that with ceramides and hyaluronic acid to keep your natural moisture barrier intact."

—*PEOPLE* STYLE & BEAUTY DIRECTOR ANDREA LAVINTHAL

$15; at drugstores

BEST HYDRATING SERUM

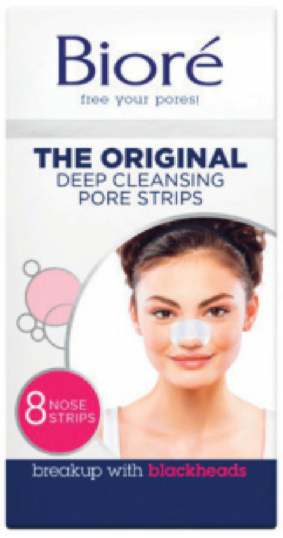
L'Oréal Paris Derm Intensives Hyaluronic Acid Serum

This serum goes all in on hyaluronic acid to instantly plump up skin. And we're not the only devotees: One bottle is sold every minute! *$30; at drugstores*

BEST OIL

Botanics 100% Organic Nourishing Facial Oil

Testers were impressed with this blend of organic rose-hip extract and sweet almond oil, which gives skin a dewy glow and has a "lovely" scent. *$18; at Walgreens stores*



BEST PORE TREATMENT

Bioré Deep Cleansing Pore Strips

If blackheads are the bane of your existence, there's no faster (and more satisfying) way to get rid of them than with these strips. "I felt like a new person after using them," said one tester. *$6.50; at drugstores*

BEST MOISTURIZER WITH SPF

Olay Regenerist Whip SPF 25

Not only did testers love the "velvety" feel of this cream but they were also thrilled with how it protected skin from the sun while leaving it "soft and hydrated." *$29; at drugstores*

BEST WRINKLE TREATMENT

No7 Laboratories Line Correcting Booster Serum

This peptide-packed serum is so good at reducing the look of wrinkles that one tester swore "it flattened forehead lines I've had since high school." *$42; at Walgreens stores*

BEST MAKEUP REMOVER

Garnier SkinActive Micellar Cleansing Water

If you still don't get the hype about micellar water, this will convert you. It erases all traces of makeup and makes skin feel "refreshed," according to our testers. *$9; at drugstores*

BEST FACE SUNSCREEN

Sun Bum Original Face 50 Sunscreen Lotion

Many formulas can feel goopy and leave you looking ghostly. But this UVA- and UVB-shielding standout is weightless and dries to a matte finish. *$13; at Target stores*

BEST BRIGHTENING TREATMENT

Bliss That's Incredi-peel Glycolic Acid Pads

Our testers swiped on these "easy to use" glycolic pads at bedtime and woke up to noticeably "brighter and smoother" skin—sans irritation. *$25 for 15 pads; at Target stores*

BEST DRY SKIN MOISTURIZER

Neutrogena Hydro Boost Gel-Cream

"This stuff is gold," said one tester of the "cloudlike" formula, which contains hyaluronic acid to help skin hold in moisture. Another plus: "A little goes a long way." *$18; at drugstores*

BEST EYE CREAM

RoC Retinol Correxion Eye Cream

"My concealer doesn't have to work as hard now," said one tester of this powerful retinol formula, which de-puffs and smooths the delicate skin under eyes. *$25; at drugstores*

The Best Lip Balm!

This debuted in 1963, and you still can't beat its nostalgic cherry scent and subtle pink tint.

ChapStick Classic Cherry

$2; at drugstores

(LOREAL SERUM, SUN BUM, BLISS PADS, CHAPSTICK) BRIAN HENN(4)

Portrait Photographs by GRACE HUANG

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makeup

BEST BRONZER FOR PEOPLE OF COLOR

Iman Cosmetics Afterglow Sheer Finishing Bronzing Powder

Created in 1999 specifically for darker skin tones, this trio of powders gave testers a "golden glow" without a grayish cast.

$16; at Walmart stores

BEST HIGHLIGHTER

Wet n Wild MegaGlo Highlighting Powder

It's hard to get a luminizing powder just right, but this one is buildable and gave testers a "natural lit-from-within glow."

$6; at drugstores

BEST BLUSH

Flower Beauty Flower Pots Powder Blush

The range has six pigmented powders, from a subtle peach to a bold pink (left) that one tester swore "brightened up my face and my mood!"

$10; at CVS stores

BEST CONCEALER

E.L.F. Cosmetics 16HR Camo Concealer

"It hides my dark circles, age spots *and* blemishes," said one tester of this full-coverage formula, which "blends nicely with foundation."

$6; at drugstores

BEST MULTITASKER

Milani Cosmetics Conceal + Perfect Foundation

One pump of this concealer-foundation hybrid, which comes in 45 shades, gives skin an "airbrushed" look. "It made me feel more confident on my Zoom calls," said a tester.

$10; at Walmart stores

The Best Mascaras!

Whatever look you want, there's a formula for you

FOR LENGTH

Honest Beauty Extreme Length Mascara + Lash Primer

$17; at Target stores

FOR VOLUME

CoverGirl Lash Blast Volume Mascara

$9; at drugstores

FOR MAJOR DRAMA

L'Oréal Paris Voluminous Lash Paradise Mascara

$11; at drugstores

BEST EYE SHADOW

Maybelline New York Nudes of New York Palette

Whether you use one color or mix a few to create a custom smoky eye, the possibilities are endless with these 16 matte and shimmer shades that look good on everyone.

$14; at drugstores

BEST BRONZER

Physicians Formula Murumuru Butter Bronzer

"Easily the best bronzer I've ever used," declared one tester of the creamy formula, which has a pearlescent finish and a pleasant beachy scent.

$15; at drugstores

BEST FOUNDATION

L'Oréal Paris Infallible 24HR Fresh Wear Foundation

Testers were blown away by this "weightless" base. "It looks like your own skin," raved one of the "dewy" finish that stayed put all day.

$15; at drugstores

BEST EYELINER

NYX Professional Makeup Epic Ink Liner

"I'm an eyeliner snob, and I love this," confessed one tester of this waterproof liquid liner, which has a fine felt tip for drawing precise, budgeproof wings.

$9; at CVS stores

Tester Tip!

"I cocktail two mascaras—one lengthening and one volumizing—when I want a false-lash look."

—PEOPLE ASSISTANT BEAUTY EDITOR KAITLYN FREY

BEST LIPSTICK

Revlon Super Lustrous Lipstick

How does a lipstick that launched in 1932 hold its own in 2020? Our testers say it's the "silky smooth" formula that makes lips look fuller, and it comes in a whopping 91 shades.

$10; at drugstores

(IMAN BRONZER, REVLON LIPSTICK BULLET) BRIAN HENN(2)

Portrait Photographs by GRACE HUANG

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makeup *continued*

BEST LIQUID LIPSTICK
Maybelline New York SuperStay Matte Ink Liquid Lipstick
With its saturated hues and unrivaled staying power (we're talking through meals!), it's no wonder one tester called the matte collection "the absolute best."
$9.50; at drugstores

BEST EYEBROW PENCIL
NYX Professional Makeup Micro Brow Pencil
The ultrathin tip of this pencil makes it easy to create the look of natural brow hairs, and with eight shades to choose from, all of our testers found their ideal match.
$11; at CVS stores

BEST GEL POLISH
Sally Hansen Miracle Gel
After going strong for almost two weeks without a single chip, this gel polish was described as "magic," by one tester, while another called it the next best thing to a salon mani.
$10; at drugstores

BEST RED NAIL POLISH
OPI Nail Lacquer in Big Apple Red
It doesn't get more glamorous than this bold bestseller, which our testers said goes on glossy—and stays shiny—for a week.
$10.50; at drugstores

BEST PINK NAIL POLISH
Essie Nail Polish in Ballet Slippers
Since making its debut in 1982, this mani mainstay has remained the gold standard for sheer pink polish. Fun fact: Even the Queen of England wears it!
$9; at drugstores

(NYX BROW PENCIL, TREE HUT SCRUB) BRIAN HENN(3)

Portrait Photographs by GRACE HUANG

body

BEST CREAM
Cetaphil Moisturizing Cream
"This rich formula melts into skin and leaves it feeling so soft and smooth; it's earned a permanent spot on my vanity."
–*PEOPLE* SENIOR STYLE & BEAUTY EDITOR JACKIE FIELDS
$18.50; at drugstores

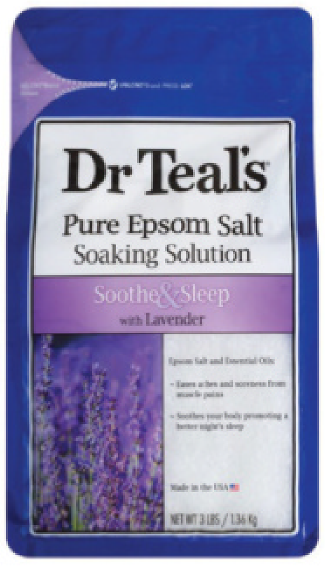
BEST BODY BAR
Dove White Beauty Bar
This iconic oval has been leaving skin soft and smelling fresh from head to toe since debuting in 1957. The secret? It actually hydrates while it cleanses.
$3 (for two); at drugstores

BEST LOTION
Aveeno Daily Moisturizing Lotion
More than 30 years after launching, this fragrance-free, colloidal oatmeal-enriched lotion is still a favorite. "It absorbs so quickly, I can pull on my leggings immediately," reported one tester.
$8.50; at drugstores

BEST SUNLESS TANNER
Jergens Natural Glow Daily Moisturizer
"It's impossible to mess up," said a tester of this "perfect" formula, which comes in two shades so you can gradually build up to your desired level of bronze.
$11; at CVS stores

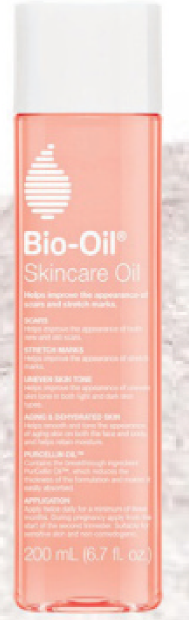
BEST BODY WASH
Method Body Wash
Testers loved everything about this hydrating cleanser, from the "wonderful" scents (there are six to choose from) to the cute bottle, which is made from recycled materials.
$7; at Target stores

BEST SCRUB
Tree Hut Coconut Lime Shea Sugar Scrub
"I'd bring it on a deserted island with me," raved one tester of this tropical-scented find, which gently sloughs skin without leaving any residue behind.
$9; at drugstores



BEST BATH SOAK
Dr Teal's Lavender Soothe & Sleep Epsom Salt Soak
A few handfuls of these "heavenly" lavender-scented salts helped ease frazzled minds and sore muscles for our testers. "You need this stuff!" said one.
$5; at Walmart stores

BEST SUNSCREEN
Hawaiian Tropic Sheer Touch Sunscreen Lotion SPF 50
This sunscreen smells like a beach vacation and is so light that our testers called it "airy." Said one: "It makes my skin feel *good*."
$9; at drugstores



BEST OIL
Bio-Oil Skincare Oil
"It's my hero product," said one tester who's been using the lightweight oil to keep stretch marks at bay for more than a decade, while a first-time tester reported having smoother skin after just a few weeks.
$28; at drugstores

BANISH
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SKIN IN 1 WEEK!*
Bioré
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DRAGON FRUIT
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refines and polishes pores to improve tone & texture
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to learn how to get
**Brighter Skin
in 1 Week***

*with Bioré Brightening Line use

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hair

BEST SHAMPOO + CONDITIONER FOR TEXTURED HAIR

Royal Oils by Head & Shoulders System

A genius duo for Black women with natural or relaxed hair, this coconut-oil-infused line is so good you'll want to use it long after any flakes are gone.
$7 each; at drugstores

BEST DRY SHAMPOO

Batiste Dry Shampoo in Original

Some of our testers were able to go up to four days without washing their hair thanks to this oil-absorbing rice-starch formula, which takes strands from "greasy to gorgeous."
$8; at drugstores

BEST VOLUMIZING SHAMPOO + CONDITIONER

Suave Professionals Rose Oil Infusion System

Winners in 2018 too, this rose-scented shampoo and conditioner make our list again because they give hair great body—for less than the price of a latte.
$3 each; at Walmart stores

BEST SMOOTHING CREAM

John Frieda Hair Care Frizz Ease Secret Weapon Touch-Up Crème

When your hair needs a little zhuzh, reach for this cult-favorite styler (it first hit shelves in 1997) that tames frizz and adds a glossy finish.
$10; at drugstores

BEST MOISTURIZING SHAMPOO + CONDITIONER

OGX Renewing + Argan Oil of Morocco System

"It smells *amazing,*" exclaimed one tester of the hydrating and shine-enhancing duo that's been a bestseller for the brand since it launched in 2010.
$9 each; at drugstores

BEST TREATMENT FOR DAMAGED HAIR

Nexxus Keraphix Damage Healing Masque

If your hair is fried from coloring, bleaching, heat-styling or all of the above, you need this "miracle" deep conditioner. "I felt a difference after just one use," said a tester.
$4; at Target stores

BEST LEAVE-IN

Creme of Nature Pure Honey Knot Away Leave-In Detangler

When it comes to working out knots, our testers reported that this honey and shea butter winner "shortens and eases the process."
$6; at Walmart stores

Tester Tip!

"I wash my hair every other day (at most), so to keep it glam on off days, I use dry shampoo. I spray it on my roots in sections and then massage it in with my fingertips to absorb oil and add texture."

—*TODAY* LIFESTYLE CONTRIBUTOR JILL MARTIN

BEST TREATMENT FOR DRY HAIR

Pantene Pro-V Intense Rescue Shots

In just one minute, these single-dose tubes revive dull, lifeless hair from roots to tips. "My curls perked up after using this," said one tester.
$5 (for three); at drugstores

BEST TEXTURIZING SPRAY

Not Your Mother's Beach Babe Sea Salt Spray

This lightweight salt spray can be used on wet or dry hair to create tousled waves without any tangles or crunchiness.
$7; at drugstores

BEST HAIRSPRAY

TRESemmé Tres Two Extra Hold Hair Spray

This classic has been around since the 1970s, yet it still flies off shelves. Our testers say it's because of the "uniform mist," "great hold" and a "scent even my husband loved."
$5; at drugstores

(PANTENE PRO-V INTENSE RESCUE SHOTS, OGX SHAMPOO, NEXXUS) BRIAN HENN(S)

Portrait Photographs by GRACE HUANG

Contributors JACKIE FIELDS, KAITLYN FREY *and* ANDREA LAVINTHAL

ADVERTISEMENT

SIR JOHN'S got you Covered

L'ORÉAL PARIS
true match
EYE CREAM IN A CONCEALER
0.5% PURE HYALURONIC ACID
C1-2 fair
n7-8 dark
C5-6 medium
0.4 FL.OZ./12 ml

WANT MAKEUP WITH EXTRA BENEFITS? LEARN WHY L'ORÉAL PARIS CELEBRITY MAKEUP ARTIST SIR JOHN CAN'T LIVE WITHOUT TRUE MATCH EYE CREAM IN A CONCEALER, WHICH DELIVERS DARK CIRCLE COVERAGE AND HYDRATION IN ONE SWIPE.

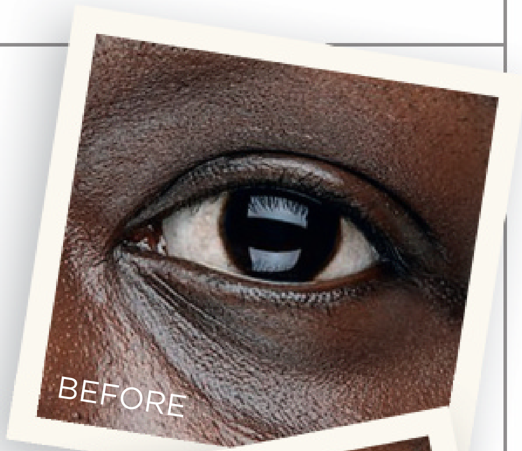
> "THIS FUSION OF SKINCARE AND CONCEALER IS SUCH A WIN. WHEN YOU HAVE SOMETHING ON YOUR FACE ALL DAY, IT SHOULD PROVIDE A SERVICE TO YOUR SKIN."
>
> **-SIR JOHN**

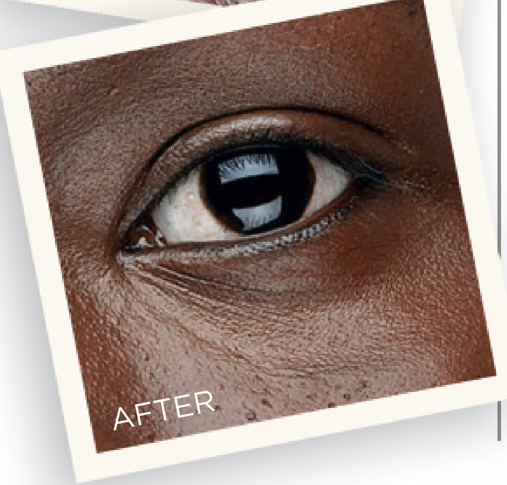
24-HOUR HYDRATION

If there's an MVP ingredient in the beauty world, it has to be hyaluronic acid. Its small molecule size absorbs deeply into skin for maximum hydration. "It's a gentle but potent moisturizing ingredient that's been shown to benefit all skin types," says Sir John.

ULTIMATE COVERAGE

With 14 versatile shades for every skin tone, the True Match collection is spot on for picking up nuances between different complexions," he says. This blendable formula is sheer enough that it won't emphasize fine lines and offers coverage for dark under eye circles.





APPLY LIKE A PRO

Gently apply two or three dots on the sides of your nose and under your eyes. For a natural-looking finish, use a damp makeup sponge or fluffy eyeshadow brush to blend it into your skin. If you need more coverage, use your ring finger (it'll pick up less product) to gently pat it into your skin.

L'ORÉAL PARIS

Available at Walmart

Sir John Photo Credit: Shaun Alexander

L'ORÉAL
PARIS
true match
EYE CREAM IN A CONCEALER
0.5% PURE HYALURONIC ACID
n 5-6
medium

AN EYE CREAM? A CONCEALER?
IT'S BOTH!

INFUSED WITH 0.5% PURE HYALURONIC ACID

LIGHTWEIGHT, BLENDABLE FORMULA

24HR HYDRATION

IN 14 TRUE TO YOU SHADES

NEW
true match
EYE CREAM
IN A CONCEALER

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BECOME A
LITTLE PART
OF YOUR
Holiday."
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quick tip!

Rinse long-grain rice like basmati under cool water before cooking. It washes away excess starch, which causes the grains to get gummy or stick together as they absorb water.

JEN CARROLL

Lemon-Ginger Chicken with Turmeric Rice

'The flavors of turmeric, ginger and lemon wash over you like a bright, warm sunrise,' says the *Top Chef Amateurs* judge and executive chef of Spice Finch in Philadelphia

1	**cup whole-milk Greek yogurt**
1	**(6-in.) piece fresh ginger, peeled and minced**
8	**garlic cloves, minced**
2	**tsp. grated lemon zest, plus 5 Tbsp. fresh juice (from 2 lemons, divided)**
5	**tsp. kosher salt, divided**
12	**(3-oz.) boneless, skinless chicken thighs**
5	**Tbsp. ghee or butter, divided**
¾	**tsp. turmeric, divided**
3	**cups water**
1	**(9-oz.) yellow onion, chopped**
1½	**cups uncooked basmati rice, rinsed**
¼	**cup chopped fresh flat-leaf parsley**

1. Stir together yogurt, ginger, garlic, 4 tablespoons lemon juice and 3 teaspoons salt in a large bowl. Add chicken; stir to evenly coat. Cover, and chill at least 1 hour or up to overnight.

2. Preheat oven to 425°. Line a large rimmed baking sheet with aluminum foil. Remove chicken from marinade; discard marinade. Let chicken stand at room temperature 15 minutes.

3. Meanwhile, melt 3 tablespoons ghee in a small pan over low. Remove from heat, and stir in ¼ teaspoon turmeric and 1 tablespoon lemon juice.

4. Place chicken on baking sheet in a single layer; brush evenly with ghee mixture. Bake until lightly browned and cooked through, about 25 minutes.

5. While chicken cooks, add water to a medium saucepan; bring to a boil over medium-high heat. Let stand at a boil.

6. Using a separate medium saucepan, heat 2 tablespoons ghee over medium heat until melted. Add onion, and cook, stirring occasionally, until tender, about 4 minutes. Add rice and ½ teaspoon turmeric, and cook, stirring often, until rice is lightly toasted, about 2 minutes. Stir in 2 teaspoons salt.

7. Pour boiling water over rice mixture, reduce heat to low, and cover. Simmer until liquid is absorbed and rice is cooked, 30 to 35 minutes. Remove from heat; stir in parsley and lemon zest. Divide rice among plates; top with chicken.

Serves: 6 **Active time:** 1 hour
Total time: 2 hours, 15 minutes

PROP STYLIST: RAINA KATTELSON; FOOD STYLIST: HADAS SMIRNOFF; INSET: BREANNE FURLONG

Photograph by TARA DONNE

By MARY HONKUS

18 Across

Princess to President

1	2	3	■	■	4	5	6	■	7	8	9	10
11			12	■	13			■	14			
15				■	16			■	17			
■	■	18		19				20				
■	■	■	21			■	22			■	■	■
23	24	25				26	■	27		28	29	30
31			■	■	32		33	■	■	34		
35			36	37	■	38		39	40			
■	■	■	41		42	■	43			■	■	■
44	45	46				47				48	■	■
49				■	50			■	51		52	53
54				■	55			■	56			
57				■	58			■	■	59		

across

1 "A long time ___ in a galaxy far, far away…"

4 Rainbow shape

7 Doorframe part

11 *Forrest* ___ (Tom Hanks movie featuring 18 Across)

13 Distant

14 "Peek-___!"

15 Cole Porter's "Well, Did You ___!"

16 Animated movie set in Brazil

17 Credit card brand

18 *House of Cards* star (2 wds.)

21 Actor Cage, to his friends

22 Bambi's mom, for one

23 FBI listening device

27 *The Princess* ___ (movie starring 18 Across)

31 Big fuss

32 Henpeck

34 Exist

35 18 Across's *Wonder Woman* castmate Gal

38 18 Across's *Message in a Bottle* costar Kevin

41 *NCIS:* ___ *Angeles*

43 Doo-wop group ___ Na Na

44 2014 award won by 18 Across for *House of Cards* (2 wds.)

49 Thing

50 *Mrs. America* actress Graynor

51 Netflix action series *The* ___ *Kingdom*

54 All-night party

55 Jeong or Watanabe

56 Sound that bounces off the wall

57 The Eagles' "___ Eyes"

58 Alien hatcher

59 The Beatles' "___ Jude"

down

1 *Avengers:* ___ *of Ultron*

2 What a Brit calls a boss

3 *House* actor Epps

4 Bogart-Hepburn classic *The* ___ *Queen*

5 Prince's "Purple ___"

6 Throng

7 Bardem who won an Oscar for 36 Down

8 "Speak softly and carry ___ stick" (2 wds.)

9 ___ pit (rock-concert area)

10 *Fresh off the* ___

12 *Dial M for Murder* prop

19 Small part in a movie

20 Lowe or Reiner

23 1997 political satire ___ *the Dog*

24 *The Hitch-Hiker* director Lupino

25 Stewart or Serling

26 ___-Man (arcade game)

28 Actor McKellen

29 Rap's Dr. ___

30 Ending for puppet or racket

33 18 Across's *Blade Runner 2049* castmate Ryan

36 *No Country for* ___ (2 wds.)

37 Piggy, in a children's rhyme

39 *Billions* network, for short

40 Poker-playing surface

42 Boa or cobra

44 *The* ___ *with the Dragon Tattoo* (movie featuring 18 Across)

45 Buckwheat's word later used by Eddie Murphy

46 *Shazam!* star Zachary

47 Kinnear or Louganis

48 Apiece

52 "___ Works Hard for the Money" (Donna Summer hit)

53 ___ *Story 4*

Answers to last week's Puzzler

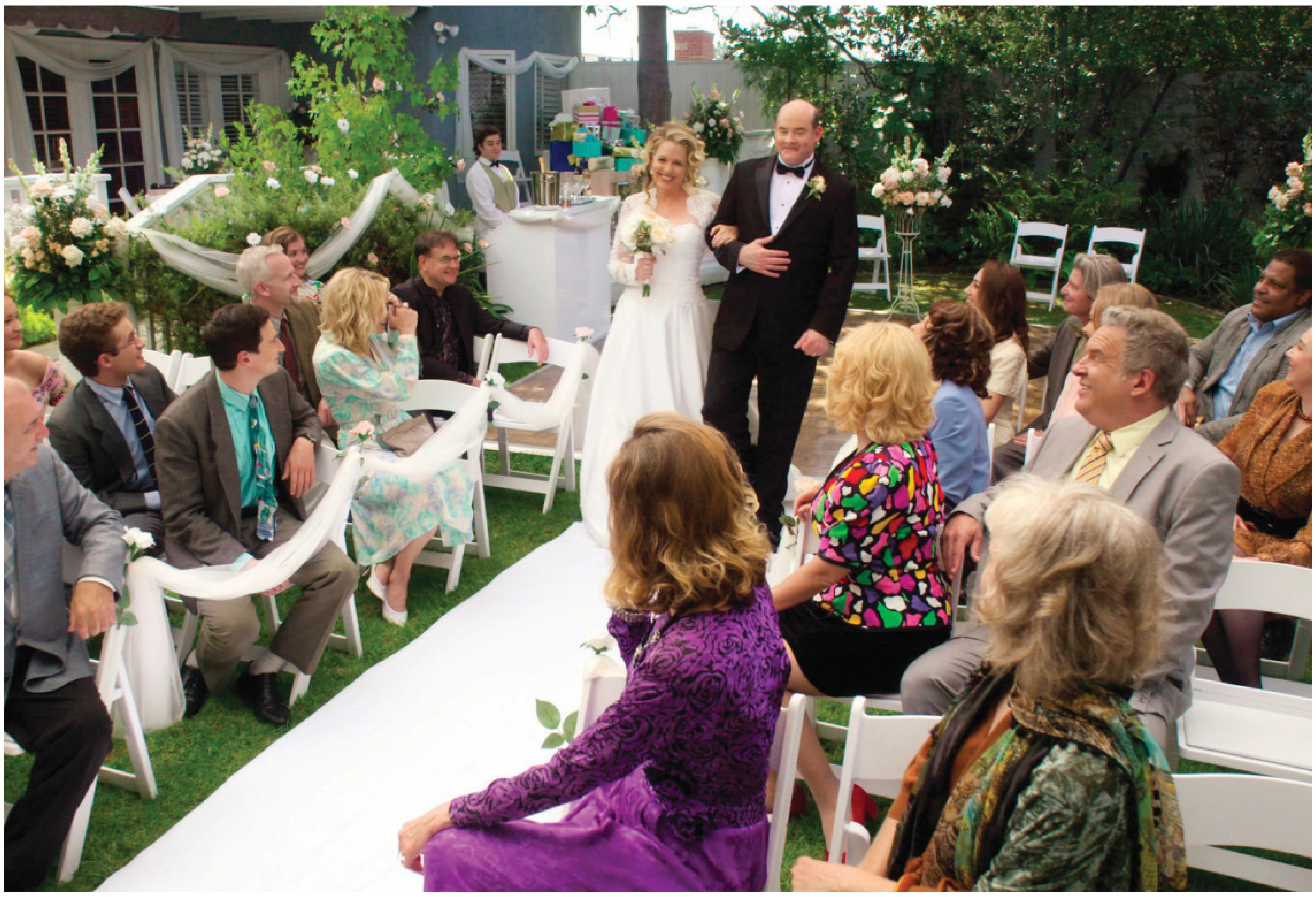
↓

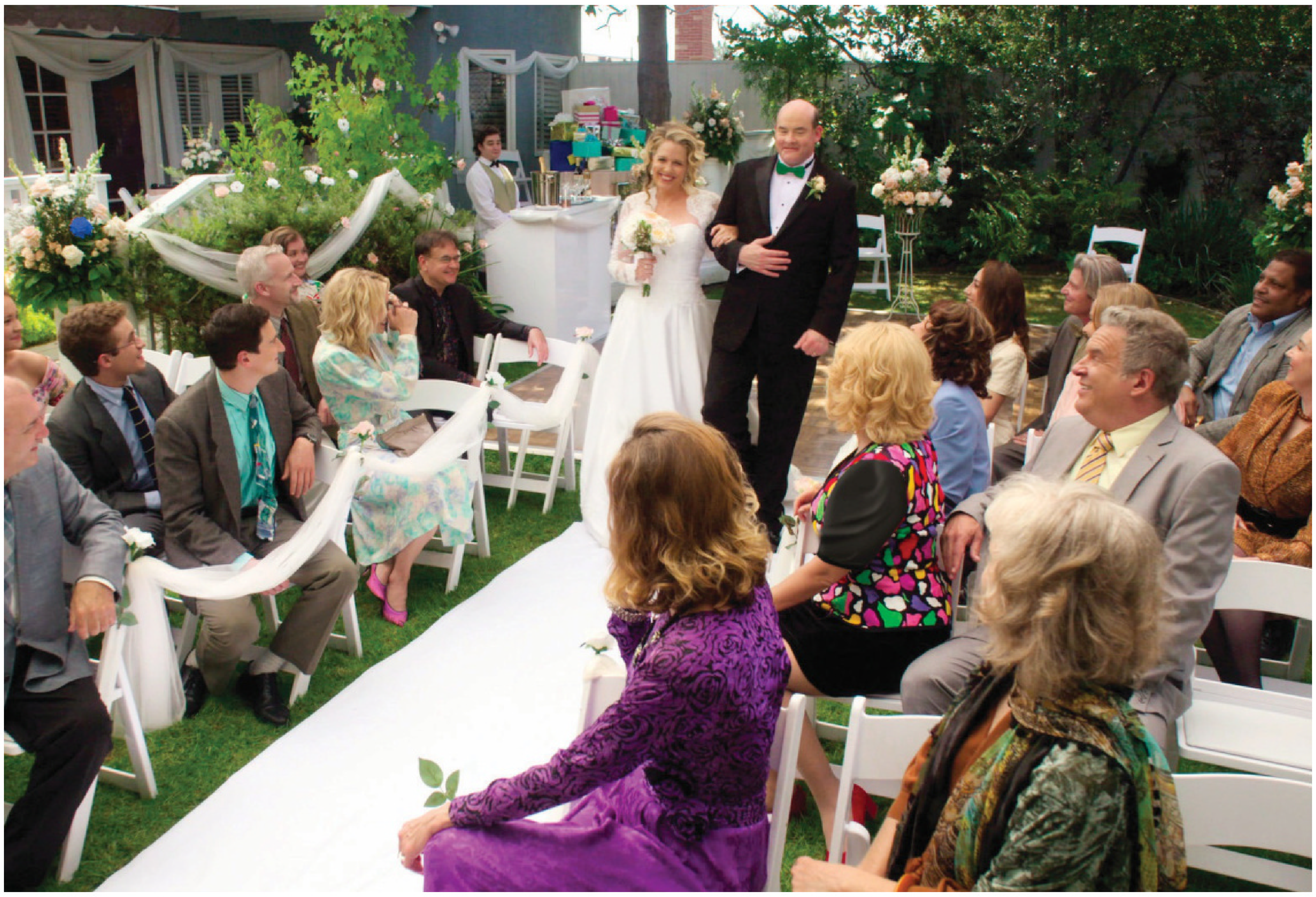
B	O	B	■	■	K	I	R	■	B	O	S	S
A	D	A	M	■	I	C	E	■	R	I	L	E
G	E	N	E	■	N	O	D	■	E	L	O	N
■	■	■	L	A	K	■	F	A	T	■	■	■
■	B	I	L	L	Y	P	O	R	T	E	R	■
H	A	L	O	S	■	O	R	K	■	L	E	K
I	R	A	N	■	D	U	D	■	S	I	T	E
M	E	N	■	I	A	N	■	S	T	O	R	Y
■	D	A	N	N	Y	D	E	V	I	T	O	■
■	■	■	O	A	T	■	A	R	C	■	■	■
W	H	A	T	■	O	R	R	■	K	Y	R	A
H	O	B	O	■	N	I	L	■	Y	O	U	R
O	P	E	N	■	A	N	Y	■	■	O	N	E

VERA ANDERSON/WIREIMAGE

By STEPHANIE SPADACCINI

See if you can find the differences in these two pictures





All eyes were on the bride in the Nov. 4 episode of ABC's '80s sitcom *The Goldbergs,* in which matriarch Beverly Goldberg learns she has only one day to plan a wedding for family friend Bill Lewis (played by **David Koechner**) and his fiancée, Dolores (**Jessica St. Clair**). "I got to live my Princess Di '80s wedding dream," St. Clair captioned a photo of herself from behind the scenes. "Lace bolero jacket not pictured."

10

changes to keep score!

☐ ☐
☐ ☐
☐ ☐
☐ ☐
☐ ☐

1. The white heels of the woman in the audience are pink. **2.** One of the white flowers in the bush on the left is blue. **3.** The windowpanes in the window, second from the left, are gone. **4.** One of the white flowers behind the audience is higher up in the bush. **5.** The brick chimney of the house in the background is taller. **6.** Lewis's bow tie is green. **7.** A folding chair (second from right in the background) is gone. **8.** The chair closest to Dolores has an additional leg. **9.** The plant beside the woman in purple has been moved to the left. **10.** The audience member's colorful shirt sleeve is black.

ABC(2)

Stevie Nicks

THE SINGER-SONGWRITER, 72, JUST RELEASED HER *24 KARAT GOLD TOUR* LIVE ALBUM AND HER NEW SINGLE 'SHOW THEM THE WAY'

PEGGY SIROTA/TRUNK ARCHIVE

Last time I was starstruck
David Beckham. It was at a big concert in San Francisco, and he just oozed handsomeness. Gorgeousness, you know? I just stood there, like, "Is this real? Maybe it's a dream."

Last time I danced
I dance around my apartment all the time. I like to make up dances to Lady Gaga's song "Applause." My girlfriends and I have our own version of the Hustle that we update.

Last time I missed someone
My niece just got married, and I couldn't go to her wedding. I can't run over and hug my friends. My mantra every day is: I'm not getting [the coronavirus]; I can't chance it.

Last indulgence
I found out I'm allergic to gluten. But I just had these gluten-free brownies from Erewhon Market in Pacific Palisades that taste like chocolate soufflé. As long as they exist, I can do this.

Last time my dog made me laugh
Lily, my Chinese crested, just the way she walks: Her little butt does the total Marilyn Monroe wiggle. It's back and forth, back and forth. I say to her, "We will get old, but this will never get old."

By JULIE JORDAN

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Oscar Mayer

THE TASTE
THEY INVENTED SLICED BREAD FOR

We always deliver the mouth-watering flavor your sandwich depends on, which is why Oscar Mayer is found in more fridges than anyone else. Enjoy Deli Fresh with *no artificial preservatives and no added nitrates or nitrites.*

MAKE EVERY SANDWICH COUNT

Oscar Mayer
DeliFresh
CRACKED BLACK PEPPER
TURKEY BREAST
COATED WITH CRACKED BLACK PEPPER
NO ARTIFICIAL PRESERVATIVES*
NO ADDED HORMONES
NO NITRATES OR NITRITES ADDED

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